This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

Per. 1512 d. 387/6

THE

MONTHLY

GAZETTE OF HEALTH;

OR

MEDICAL, DIETETIC, ANTIEMPIRICAL,

AND

General Philosophical Journal.

BY

RICHARD REECE, M.D.

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, AUTHOR OF THE MEDICAL GUIDE AND DICTIONARY, &c. &c. &c.

VOL. VI.

FOR THE YEAR 1821.

FOURTH EDITION.

London:

SOLD BY SHERWOOD, NEELY, AND JONES, PATERNOSTER ROW, SIMPKIN AND MARSHALL, BALDWIN AND CO. AND HIGHLEY AND SON, LONDON; AND BY ALL BOOKSELLERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1822.

[*Price* 12*s.* 6*d. in boards.*]

LONDON:
Printed by R. CLAY, Devonshire-street, Bishopsgate.

PREFACE

TO

THE SIXTH VOLUME.

FOR the highly respectable and increasing patronage with which this Work is honoured, the Editor begs to return his most grateful thanks. Notwithstanding the violent opposition his labours have experienced from the mercenary Members of the Medical Profession, whose artifices and incompetency to exercise the healing art he has exposed, he has the very gratifying satisfaction to find not only the names of Monarchs and Noblemen, but—what is far more gratifying to his feelings—of the most scientific Members of his own Profession, among his *regular* Subscribers.

To conduct a Work, the professed object of which is to acquaint the Public at large, and the Members of the Profession in particular, with the discoveries that are made in every branch of medicine; and to enable the Readers, by practical remarks, to distinguish sound doctrines from fanciful theories, is an arduous task; and to expose the unworthy practices of those Members of the Profession, whose only study is to enrich themselves, and the impositions of regular and irregular Quacks, is a very bold one. The Editor of such a Work, if he conscientiously discharges his duty to the Public, must, in return, expect to be assailed with the most rancorous abuse, inasmuch as those whom he makes his enemies, are a set capable even of tampering with the lives of their fellow-creatures for the sake of lucre—wretches whose chief study is to form connexions, for the sake of making merchandize of them when afflicted with disease. From this quarter, and from the advertisers of nostrums, the Editor has great pleasure to find, that he continues to be *honoured* with the most unqualified abuse, and the most scurrilous misrepresentations. His assailants have, in return, the great mortification of knowing, that their mean insinuations and base calumny, have a very contrary effect on the minds of their Readers, than that they were desirous to produce; viz. of inducing

their Readers to read the Gazette of Health, in order to judge for themselves; the consequence of which has been, they have continued regular Subscribers to the Work, and discontinued the contemptible Journal of a scribbling Charlatan, or wholesale dealer in technicalities. The perusal of our labours has enabled his readers to discover that silly Journal to be a tissue of nonsense, fit only to please those who suppose that a knowledge of medicine consists only in technicalities. If the Editor of the Gazette of Health has been severe in his comments on the traffic of a certain set of fee-hunters, who have had the impudence to style themselves *regular* Physicians, for the purpose of imposing on the weak and credulous, he flatters himself he has been just, and that no person can accuse him of misrepresentation or falsehood, or of having been actuated by any unworthy feeling or interested motive.

If the Editor has met with much unmerited abuse from one set of Practitioners, he has certainly met with much unmerited praise from another; so that he has no reason to regret having undertaken the superintendance of the publication. A perusal of the present Volume, he flatters himself, will afford satisfactory evidence of his sole object being public good, and also of his gratitude for the patronage the Work has experienced from every class of Readers. Among the discoveries made in the course of the present year, may be noticed the efficacy of the Colchicum Seeds in Gout, Rheumatism, Asthma, incipient Consumption, and inflammatory affections of secreting membranes, particularly of the Wind-pipe—of the Iodine in Wen and Scrofula—of the Buchu Leaves in morbid irritability of the Bladder, Kidneys, and Urethra, Gravel, and paucity of Urine—of the Carbonate of Iron in Tic Doloureux—of Galvinism in debility of the Digestive Organs—of Lupulin in Indigestion of gouty and nervous subjects. The original communications, and the practical observations on them, as well as on the new publications, he also flatters himself, will be found instructive.

The Editor begs to inform his new Subscribers, that he has re-printed all the back Numbers, for the purpose of supplying them with complete sets, which may be obtained only at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly, at *9d.* each Number. On this price he cannot afford to make any allowance to Booksellers.

CONTENTS OF THE SIXTH VOLUME.

MEDICINE.

	Page
Report of the Diseases of Berlin....	762
Inflammation of the Mucous Membrane of the Bronchia	764
Remedy for Rheumatism	769
——— Acute Pain in the Stomach, Vomiting	*ibid*
Means of Destroying Moles, &c.	776
On Palsy, by Dr. Cooke.....	780
Colchicum Seeds, by Dr. Williams..	785
Inflammation of the Intestines.....	789
On Worms, by Dr. Bremer.....	790
Rheumatism, by Dr. Balfour	793
Gout Cordial, Receipt for	798
On Rheumatism	799
Effects of the Buchu Leaves	*ibid*
On Bilious and Nervous Disorders ..	802
Report of Diseases.....	805
Suppression of Urine, by Mr. Wilkinson	809
Case of Palsy of the Lower Extremities, cured by Electricity	810
On Buchu Leaves as a Remedy for Rheumatism	812
Remarks on Gout and Rheumatism..	813
On Iodine, in Cases of Wen and Scrofula	817
State of Medicine	818
On Hooping Cough, &c. &c.	843
Effects of Vapour Tar in Cases of Hooping Cough	844
Tincture Lupulin, a Remedy for Irritative Indigestion	847
Of the Lettuce Opium, by Dr. Duncansen.	849
On Canine Madness	851
Dr. Hastings's Book	854
Advice to Trading Physicians	861
Further Remarks on the Buchu Leaves	864
An Account of a Sudatory	866
Medical Consultation of the leading Physicians, Surgeons, Theory-mongers, Quacks of England over the Ourang Outang	886
Typhus Fever, Remarks on the Treatment of.....	907
Rheumatism, Cases of, cured	909
Tic Doloureux, an Obstinate Case of	911
On Hydrophobia, a Case of	913
Colchicum Seeds, a Description of the True.....	914
Red Gravel, Successful Treatment of	916
Pulmonary Consumption, a New Method of Treatment of.....	*ibid*
Flatulence, Gastric, Causes, &c. of ditto	920
Nerves, the Office of	*ibid*
Guttæ Serena, Dr. Veitch's Treatment of	924
Palsy of the Bladder, Treatment of..	*ibid*
Gout, the Treatment of.....	926
Fluor Albus, Remedy for	930
Laudanum, Poisoning by	*ibid*
Opium, New Preparation of.....	*ibid*
Scarlet Fever, Prevention of.....	*ibid*
Painful Menstruation, Remedy for ..	931
Case of Tic Doloureux, Cured by Carbonate Iron	937
Rheumatism Cured by Wine of Colchicum Seeds	938
Croup, the Treatment of	939
Blisters, on the Application of, to Children	940
On Flatulence.....	943
On Iodine, as a Remedy for Wen and Scrofula	944
Scald Head, Ointment for the Cure of	*ibid*
Itch, of the Sulphuret of Potass in Cases of	*ibid*
Liver Cough, a Case of.....	949
White of Eggs as an Antidote to Corrosive Sublimate.....	951
Small Pox, Two Cases of, after Vaccination	952
Mercury, Mortification and Death occasioned by the Use of	*ibid*
Galvanism, Baneful Effects of, in Derangement of the Stomach, &c. ..	954
Of Bilious Complaints, &c.	956
Remarks on Dr. James Johnson's Treatise on Derangements of the Liver, &c.	*ibid*
Dispensaries, Tricks in the Management of	961

	Page
Specific Effects of Iodine on Scrofula	976
Dr. Ayre's Book on Bilious Complaints	977
Mr. Hare's ditto ditto ditto	981
Dr. Philips's ditto ditto ditto	987
Colchicum Seeds, Time of Collecting	996
Professor Borda's Treatment of Pulmonary Consumption	997
Professor Borda's Treatment of Hooping Cough	*ibid*
Professor Borda's Treatment of Dysentery, &c.	998
On Tic Doloureux, by Surgeon Villers	*ibid*
Dr. Phillips's Experiments on Rabbits	999
Failure of Vaccination as a Preventive of Small Pox	*ibid*
On the Pyrolignate of Soda	1000
Cases of Tape Worm, Destroyed by Spirit of Turpentine, by Dr. Knox	1005
Of the Royal College of Physicians of London	1001
Case of Napoleon Buonaparte	1011
Report of Appearances on his Dissection	1013
Dr. O'Meara's Letter	1014
Remarks on his Opinion as to the Disease which occasioned the Death of Napoleon	1017
Cancerous Ulceration, by Sweindeur	1022
Cases of Gutta Serena, successfully treated by Galvanism, by Mr. La Beaume	1023
Dr. Philips's Experiments on the Influence of the Eighth Pair of Nerves	1025
The Physicians' Guide, by Dr. Dods	1033
Tic Doloureux Cured by Carbonate of Iron	1039
Ditto by Peruvian Bark	1041
Head-ache, Different Species of, by Surgeon Farmer	1042
Case of her late Majesty	1046
——— the late Napoleon Buonaparte	1047
——— Sudden Death	1050
Remedy for Tape Worm	1053
Treatise on Galvanism, by Surgeon Price	1054
Case of Hydrophobia	1061
Dr. Privesah's Remedy for ditto	*ibid*
Fatal Case of Rheumatism, by Dr. Thompson	1062
On the Progress of Medical Science	1065
Effects of Nettle Flagellation, in a Case of partial Palsy	1069
Successful Treatment of a Case of Intestinal Obstruction, by Surgeon Williams	1071
Observations on Hypochondriacs, by Mr. H. Perry	1073
Case of Erysipilas, Cured by Strong Mercurial Ointment, by Dr. Little	1074
On the Growth, Preservation, &c. of the Hair	1074
A Remedy for Baldess	1076
A Remedy for Gout	1077
On the Oil of Croton Tiglium, as a Cathartic	1079
Observations on the Beneficial Effects of Tincture of Iodine in Scrofula, &c.	1080
Case of Incontinence of Urine cured by the Tincture of the Buchu Leaves	*ibid.*
Mr. Mingay Syder's Questions and Answers, for the Use of Medical Students	1081
Case of Locked Jaw, from a Burn, by Mr. Wayte	1085
On Cow Pox, as a Preventive of Small Pox	1086
Observations on Cow Pox, by Mr. Shipman	1088
Supposed Case of Apoplexy	1089
Observations on Sulphureous Fumigation, by Sir Arthur Clarke	1089
On the Causes which Impede the Progress of Medicine	1097
On Dr. Paris's Pharmacologia	1098
On the London Pharmacopœia	1099
Cases of Scrofula, Cured by Iodine	1108
On Different Species of Head-ache	1110
Fatal Effects of Wild Theories	1111
Cases of Scirrhous Enlargement of the lower Uteri	1112
New Mode of Treating Watery Head, by Sir Gilbert Blane	1113
Cases of Gout and Rheumatism, Cured by the Wine of the Colchicum Seeds, by Dr. Uwins	1115
On the Prussic Acid, by Dr. M'Leod	1117
On English Opium and Narcotine	1119
Institution of a Society of Practical Medicine in London	1125
Institution of the Medico-Chirurgical Society	1126
On the Causes which Impede the Progress of Medicine	1134
Remarkable Case of Abstinence of Food, by an Hypochrondiac	1137
Treatment of a Patient who had swallowed Arsenic	1138
Of the Croton Oil	1140
Of Dr. Paris's Pharmacologia	1141
Of Mr. Wright's Address to those afflicted with Deafness	1144
New Mode of Treating Hydrophobia, by Dr. Muller	1145
A Case of Sanguineous Tumour	1146
Sulphureous Fumigation	*ibid.*
Effects of the Colchicum Seed Wine in Gout, by Surgeon Bampfield	1148
Of Cholera Morbus	1151
Of the Effects of Gamboge, in Edematous Swellings	1153
Case of Pectoral Augerena, with Remarks	1154
Of the Contagious Nature of Yellow Fever	1155
A successful Treatment of Rheumatism	1155
A Fatal Locked Jaw	1157
Successful Treatment of Gravel	*ibid.*
Report of Diseases	*ibid.*

SURGERY.

	Page
New Mode of Treating Piles, &c,....	755
Concussion of the Brain, by Surgeon Wansborough	759
Remedy for Wen	771
Stone in the Bladder.....	783
Strangulated Rupture	796
Hare Lip	797
Deafness	801
New Operation for Rupture	811
Remedy for Piles	*ibid.*
Ditto for Chilblains	812
Vermicular Abscesses	816
On Aneurism, by Surgeon Walker ..	851
On Cupping, with Instructions for Operating, by Mr. Mapleson	858
Dislocation of a Vertebra of the Neck	910
Cow Pox, Failure, &c. of	925
Tooth-ache, the Treatment of	927
Watery Head, Puncture of	928
Cancer, New Mode of Treatment for	930
Advance to Surgeons	936
Inflammation of the Larynx, Operation for.....	945
Rationale of Inflammation	975
Remarks on Inflammation, by Dr. Gregory	969
Of the Royal College of Surgeons in London	969
On Mr. Parmly's Essay on the Disorder and Treatment of the Teeth	1020
Case of Wen Cured by Ligature	1049
Do. *of Aneurism of the* Carotid Artery	1052
Description of an Instrument for Contracted Limbs	1057
On the Treatment of Purulent Discharge from the Ears, by Surgeon Swan	1059
On the Effects of finely-powdered Charcoal, in Preventing or Removing Inflammation and Pain ..	1076
Remarks on an Abscess of the Female Breast, by Mr. Brown, of Edinburgh	1077
Remarks on a Case of Sanguineous Tumour	1157
Successful Treatment of Asthma ..	*ibid.*

MIDWIFERY.

Extraordinary Case of Labour	756
Queries respecting a Case of Twins in Worcester	865
On the Delivery of Twins	999
Extraordinary Case of Difficult Parturition	1109

CHEMISTRY, PHARMACY, &c.

On the Rhatany Root, by Professor Hufeland	763
New Names of Drugs	800
Peruvian Bark	814
Chemical Matches, Receipt for	849
Amulets, Ditto	*ibid.*
Simple Method of Procuring Ice	*ibid.*
Receipts for Pantiles, Cements, &c...	866
Means of Detecting Alum in Wine..	867
On the Epsom Salt	1025
Receipt for Making Cold Cream	1128
Ditto for Tincture of Iodine.....	1155
Ditto for Gout Liniment	*ibid.*
Experiments with Oxygen	1158

QUACKERY.

Empirical Book and Theories	773
Zest of Dr. Kitchinson	776
Bateman's Pectoral Drops	807
Hickman's Diuretic Pills	808
Velno's Vegetable Syrup	*ibid.*
Composition of Boel's Powder for Weakness of Sight.....	816
On Quackery, by Empirico Mastic '..	829
Composition of Houghton's Elixir ..	835
Ditto of Dr. Sydenham's Pills	837
Ditto of Dr. Symmonds's Pills	838
Gout Nostrum, Fatal Effects of.....	840
Canadian Pile Ointment	869
Tower's Tonic Pills	870
Deafness, on a pretended Specific for	962
Quackery, letter on, by an Old Surgeon	963
Ditto from E. M.	964
On the Seidlitz Powders	1027
On Dr. James Johnson	1028
Hudson's Botanical Tooth Powder ..	1031
Canadian Ointment, a Nostrum for Piles	1032
Hadley's Convulsion Powders	1090
Tinder's Pile Specific	1092
On Quackery	1122
The Nostrum termed the Prepared Essence of Senna	1127
Of the Medical Institutions by Drs. Beamont, Jordan, and others	1159
Mr. Cockle's Antibilious Pills	1160

BIOGRAPHY.

Biographical Sketch of Professor Carlisle	753
Ditto of Dr. Buxton	777
Of Living Biography	841
Ditto, continued	905
Biographical Sketch of the late Dr. Rigby, of Norwich.....	1129

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Page
Mind and Matter, by Mr. Wilson....	754
Case of Surgeon Jarvis *v.* Sloper	775
Remarks on Education	771
London Pharmacopœia	783
The Family Cyclopædia	801
Horncation	802
Jarvis *v.* Sloper, continued	806
Hunterian Lecture.....	816
Education of Youth, by Jane W.....	822
——————by Dominus P.	826
Extraordinary Effects of Haunches of Venison	842
Of Tar Oil Light	868
On Agriculture	869
Trial of Mr. Rymer, *v.* the Editor, for a Libel on his Cardiac Tincture	873
Mr. Gurney's Address to the Special Jury in favour of the Plaintiff	874
Examination of Surgeon Steele, Mr. Pooler, &c.	876
Mr. Scarlett's Address in favour of the Defendant.....	877
Lord Chief Justice's Remarks	*ibid*
Observations on Mr. Gurney's Address	884
The Family Cyclopædia, Recommendation of	931
Errors of Judgment, Instances of....	933
Dispensaries, Observations on.....	934
Bugs, means of Destroying	936
Drs. Philip, Hastings, and Abel *v.* Mr. Broughton	966
Printing, New Method of	*ibid.*
Dr. James Johnson, Remarks on his Attack on the Editors	*ibid*
Catgut, on the Manufactory of	968
On the Preservation of Ice.....	1030
Letter on the Brentford Dispensary..	*ibid*

DIET.

	Page
Poisonous Property of German Sausages	867
Poisoned Meat	863
Of Meats Preserved by the Pyroligneous Acid	869
Malvern Waters	966
Meats Preserved by the Pyroligneous Acid	1000
Ditto	1030
On the German Sausage, by Dr. Cournet	1080
Mr. Tweed's Treatise on Regimen and Diet	1092
Remarks on Vegetable Diet	1120

Contents of the Addition to the Appendix C, *to the 29th Number.*

	Page
Of Stricture in the Urethra	lv
Messrs. Bell and Shaw's Book on ditto	*ibid*
Mr. Bingham's ditto	lx
His supposed New Mode of treating Stricture	lxi
Mr. Arnott's Book	lxii
Description of the Male Urethra	lxiv
Description of the Seminal Vesicles	lxv
Of Affections of the Seminal Vesicles, Ducts, &c. often mistaken for Stricture	lxvi
Treatment of Stricture	*ibid*
Of Organic Stricture	lxvii
Treatment of Stricture	lxix
Remedy for Gleet	lxx
Morbid Irritability of the Bladder, Remedy for.....	*ibid*
Enlargement of the Prostate Gland, Remedy for.....	lxxi
Description of a New Bougie	*ibid*
Instructions for using ditto	*ibid*
Description of a Metallic Syringe Bougie.....	lxxiii
Of the Causes, Treatment, &c. of Impotency	lxxiii
Hypochondriasis of Youth, &c. &c...	lxxvii
Of the Buchu Leaves	*ibid*
Of Cubebs lxxviii	

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 61. To JANUARY 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

Of ANTHONY CARLISLE, Esq. F.R.S. F.A.S.

Surgeon Extraordinary to the King, Surgeon to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester and to the Westminster Infirmary, and Professor of Anatomy to the Royal Academy.

This able anatomist is descended from an antient noble family of Scotland, one of whom (Sir James Carlisle) married Miss Margaret Bruce, whose ancestors obtained a peerage, with the barony of Torthorald. The professor's father possessed a family estate at Hellington, near Stockton-upon-Tees. His professional education commenced with a maternal uncle in the city of York, which was soon transferred, in consequence of his uncle's death, to Mr. Green, surgeon in ordinary to the General Infirmary of Durham, an hospital which affords a field for experience and observation equal to any in the United Kingdom. At the age of 28, he came to London to finish his professional education, under the illustrious John Hunter, with whom he became so great a favourite, that he soon offered him the superintendance of his museum, and the appointment of demonstrator in his dissecting room, which his friends advised him to decline. The professor was afterwards appointed assistant surgeon to the Westminster Hospital, to which he became surgeon in ordinary, on the death of Mr. Henry Watson.

About seven years ago, he succeeded the late Mr. Shelden, as Professor of Anatomy to the Royal Academy of London, to the appointment of which even his opponents acknowledged that his anatomical knowledge and taste gave him a superior claim. This situation he has long filled with great credit to himself, and justice to that noble institution. Here the professor has to take a view of the human body, very different to that which is generally taken by *surgical* lecturers on anatomy: instead of merely noticing the structure or various functions, he has to point out the beauties and deformities of each part, to shew the nice adjointment and symmetry of the whole, or to impress on the minds of the students the foundation of the graphic art on just principles. If we were to judge from the approbation of the public, he has completely succeeded in discharging this, certainly, very nice and difficult duty. The professor is the author of many articles in the transactions of the Royal, the Antiquarian, Linnæan, and Horticultural Societies, as well as in the medical periodical journals, which do him credit as a man of science, and as what may be termed in our times, a "rara avis in terra," a professional man of liberal sentiments, as a proof of which it is only necessary to refer to his celebrated address to the surgeon-apothecaries of England, which appeared about the year 1815.

The professor's numerous scientific communications, prove indisputably not only that he is a man of varied information, but that in his investigations he does not pursue the beaten track; he has displayed that originality of thinking which infallibly points out superior genius; such a man never condescends to the mean *arts* of practice, which have disgraced many of his cotemporaries, and reduced the profession in the opinion of men of discernment, below the meanest mechanic, even of a *Cooper*, or a shoemaker.

MIND AND MATTER.—The nature of the reasoning principle of man, and the influence of the mind on the body, are become very favourite subjects of investigation with the lecturers to the London College of Surgeons. The opposite opinions of Messrs. Abernethy and Lawrance respecting the materiality and immateriality of the soul, we have already noticed. Mr. James Wilson, Professor of Anatomy and Surgery to the College, Lecturer and Surgeon at the Hunterian School, in Great Windmill-street, a gentleman of great experience and sound judgment, prefaced the lecture he lately delivered at the college, on the human skeleton and diseases of the bones and joints, with some observations on this favourite topic, which many of his hearers considered, from the *dryness of the subject*, not altogether unconnected with the *skeleton*.—"We are convinced," said the professor, "that there is a principle within us, which feels, which thinks, which reasons, which makes us acquainted with external objects, and from which the original source of all our voluntary actions seems to be derived. We know that this principle has a system of laws peculiar to itself; but equally regular and certain with the other laws of nature; we know that in consequence of its union with the body certain effects are produced, which none of the other laws of nature, so far as we are yet acquainted with them, or with the effect produced by them, will enable us to explain. Numerous occurrences convince us that this principle acts constantly and powerfully on the body by the intervention of the brain and nerves; but how or in what manner, we know nothing certain. The abilities of many of the most celebrated anatomists and physiologists of the past age and of the present, have been exerted to obtain more information on this important subject; very many animals have been sacrificed as victims in this pursuit, and some new facts have been lately ascertained; still many opinions remain which are neither confirmed so as to be established, nor absolutely confuted, so as to be rejected. For the most important of these facts we are indebted to the experiments of Bichot, Le Gallois, and others. The result of these experiments, and the opinions founded on them, have been so ably arranged and narrated by Doctor Cooke in the Croonian lectures, delivered by him last year at the Royal College of Physicians, and since published, that I need only refer you to the work, as containing a sufficiently ample abstract of what has been yet achieved by ancient and modern discoverers; and strongly feeling the justice and force of his concluding observation on the nature and uses of the nervous system, I shall take the liberty to quote it here: he says, 'of the ultimate nature or essence, either of mind or matter, or of that compound which we call the nervous system, we

know nothing; but of the laws by which it is governed, or rather the circumstances by which it is influenced, we know enough to enable us, in some degree at least, to understand the nature and causes, and to explain the phenomena of many of its morbid affections.'

"All physiologists seem to have agreed that brute animals possess this principle to a certain degree, viz. so far as it is connected with many of the vital actions; but its powers of reason and intelligence in them have been doubted. Brutes certainly possess these powers in much lower degrees than men; but if we deny the existence of reason, although less perfect in brutes, our proofs of mankind possessing it must be lessened. In the more perfect quadrupeds, all of us must have seen instances both of memory and judgment. Dogs, horses, and the whole of the ape tribe, possess these qualities to a considerable degree; and the elephant is said to possess them to still greater. The memory and reason of brutes as they approach the lower orders, become more and more obscure, and in the lowest order of animals we have no traces of either quality remaining, nor can much difference be perceived between some of them and vegetables. In the present inquiry I shall not enter into arguments used in proof of the materiality or immateriality of this principle, nor into the distinction which some physiologists pretend to make between the degrees of it possessed by brute animals or men; for all the knowledge which we require of it here, is the nature and extent of its connexion with the healthy and diseased actions of an animal body."

The subject of the nature of the soul, which some may suppose to have no connexion with surgery, was first introduced by Mr. Abernethy, probably, in consequence of supposing, from the sordid conduct of many of the members, that they had not given a future state due consideration. We hope the result will be a thorough conviction of the immortality of the soul, and of future rewards and punishments, which cannot fail to have a beneficial influence on their consciences.

PILES.—Mr. Blackett, an ingenious surgeon of London, has published the following case of Piles, to illustrate the good effects of a new practice, which he states he has found to succeed in several instances.

"G. M. aged about forty-five, a man accustomed to live free, &c. complained that he had been afflicted with piles for six or seven years; and that the first attack of them was preceded by a pain in the back and loins, head-ache, and severe griping pains in the abdomen, the bowels at the same time being obstinately costive, which has continued, more or less, ever since. Frequently, he says, there is a very great discharge of serum, and about thirteen or fourteen times since the first attack, there has been an excessive discharge of blood, which always appeared to relieve him much, but in the course of a week, the symptoms returned with increased violence. He has now the serous discharge; bowels very much confined; and rectum full of tumors, as well as five externally. I ordered him the following remedies:—

Take of Sulphate of Potass, one scruple;
Precipitated Sulphur, half an ounce;
Cinnamon water, one ounce and a half.
Mix.—To be taken three times a day.

Take of Powdered Nitrate of Potass, one drachm;
Pure water, eight ounces.
Mix.—To be injected three times a day.

"The above injection was thrown into the rectum by means of a uterine, or female syringe, and to be retained there as long as possible.

"The reason why I advised the female syringe was, that the fluid should be immediately applied to the diseased part, and that only, which would not be the case if the common syringe was used. My patient continued this plan for five days; when I found it necessary to omit the draughts, but to continue the injection, which I found was alone sufficient to keep the bowels perfectly relaxed; and in the course of two weeks more he was perfectly cured, and his bowels were returned regularly twice a day; since which time he has been quite free from this troublesome complaint.

"This, in general, has been my plan for these four or five years, which I have found very successful; having, during that period, cured between thirty or forty patients; and where there was a considerable discharge of blood, I added to the injection one drachm of the tincture of galls."

PARTURITION.—Sirs, If the following extraordinary case merits a place in your journal, you will greatly oblige me by inserting it. Its fatal termination may possibly have a beneficial effect on those females whose tempers are not the most amiable or submissive when under the advice or assistance of medical gentlemen.

I am, Sirs, your constant reader,

Shaftesbury, Dec. 1, 1820. CHIRURGUS.

Sarah Cousens, a person whose occupation in life placed in her way some difficulties during pregnancy, being accustomed to ride a donkey from place to place, and having, in the later months of gestation, been thrown off the back of this animal, she occasionally felt sensations as if the child had been displaced from its natural position; this was her own description: these symptoms did not hinder her in her usual employment. On Tuesday morning, the 3d of October, 1820, she called on us for assistance, having felt slight griping uterine pains during the preceding night; upon examination we found the os uteri was not yet dilated, the progress of the first stage was slow; we returned home, waiting a regular and more efficient course of pains to establish the completion of the first stage of labour; in the evening we found the first stage completed, and the liquor amnii was now collected in considerable quantity; and, as we had been informed that she had been delivered of five still-born children, and in each case, as she termed it, bred the dropsy with them, at this time we discovered the like occurrence had taken place; the membranes were now ruptured, and, in all probability,

would have succeeded in saving the life of the child, had not the following unpleasant circumstances occurred to prevent it: the presentation was ascertained immediately to be that of the left shoulder; the female attendants in the room were made acquainted with the position of the child, which, in the language amongst midwives, is called "lying across;" the patient's strength was good, she took a little tea occasionally, but ate nothing during this day. It was deemed proper to attempt the delivery by the usual means of turning the child; the attempt was made, and to our great astonishment, the patient at this time began to be passionate, she suspected matters went not with her as all could wish; she was made acquainted with the situation of the labour, and of the necessity of such assistance being given to her, to which she eagerly replied, in a strain of marked irritability of temper and contempt, "that she would not be interrupted, that nature should effect the expulsion by the regularity of her process of delivery, and that she would not submit to any assistance of art to relieve her at that time." At this moment (Tuesday night), every persuasive means, every inducement the mind could offer to her to submit, availed nothing; her obstinacy became more and more determined, her passion and irritability increased to excessive anger, and all her fury was bent against her attendants; she wished now to pass the remainder of the night in rest. Other attempts were again made to persuade her to compliance, assuring her the pain would be but little in comparison to the usual labour-pains; she would not yield either to tender solicitations or remonstrances of any kind; in fact, the determined resolution of her mind was constantly expressed in these words: "I would rather die than suffer the delivery by art." In this perilous condition no alternative presented itself but death, or a speedy delivery by coercion; she was left to sleep, for several hours, which was refreshing; the pains remitted during the whole of the next day (Wednesday), and the following night, till next day (Thursday); about eight o'clock in the morning we were again using the most affecting means to subdue the spirit of resistance which predominated so powerfully in her mind against the usual and only means whereby she could be saved from evident destruction; all exertions were equally ineffectual as before; others of her friends came in to implore her to allow the accoucheur to proceed in his means of delivery; temptations of every kind were held out to her, and repeated assurances, that if she yielded not, death must soon put a close to her existence; the pains were now quite strong, and regular at intervals of two or three minutes. At twelve o'clock she appeared to consent to the aid of her medical attendants; another trial was now made to deliver her; every thing seemed to proceed with correctness and regularity for the space of ten minutes. At length, her passions were again roused to resist; she became infuriated against all around her; the tremendous condition she was now in induced every person about her to request her submission to the means but a few minutes longer when all would be well. At this instant,

> "That Passion, whose tempestuous sway
> Tears up each virtue planted in the heart,
> And shakes to ruin proud Philosophy;

For, pale and trembling, Anger rushes in
With falt'ring speech, and eyes that wildly stare,
Fierce as the Tiger, madder than the Seas,
Desp'rate, and arm'd with more than human strength."

The whole of this night (Thursday) was spent in agonies of pain and the same disposition of mind. Her only excuse now was, that she waited the return of her husband, who had been gone a journey, and whose return was uncertain. She remained in this awful state during the whole of the day (Friday), until 6 at night. Her pulse continued good up to this time, and her strength supported by taking light nourishment. Her countenance and speech remained unaltered.

Having now been unsuccessful in our endeavours to deliver her from the above circumstances, we were induced to recommend the calling in another surgeon-accoucheur. This was agreed to, in order to see if a fresh face could surmount the obstacles we laboured under, and prevail upon her to concede to the only method for saving her own life. The child was now dead, and the presentation down upon the os externum. A third practitioner was now arrived, to witness the most extraordinarily obstinate woman that ever breathed, under a case similar in its uterine state. She had said, that when the other accoucheur came, she would then submit to all the means; but upon his arrival, he received the same violent responses, from her positively asserting, that she would not suffer any one to touch her; and it was not without considerable difficulty and perseverance that the united efforts of all produced any desirable effects upon her mind, by representing urgently to her the dreadful situation she stood in. She now yielded, and became as good a patient as most, but not until she began to feel herself sinking very rapidly. The pulse grew more frequent, but less powerful, and much debilitated. Exhaustion was become her companion until death, the approach of which was certain. As no injury could be done to the child (being dead), the crotchet was used, and the delivery effected with this instrument alone, but with more difficulty than was expected, no doubt, increased by the want of contraction of the uterus. At 10 o'clock on Saturday morning she expired.

We have not heard of, or seen, a case upon record, in substance similar to the one above stated. The remarkable influence of the passions on this patient must be truly astonishing to all your readers, and, I believe, admits of no parallel. She was strongly led to believe, in her own mind, that Nature would effect the delivery in due time; and it was this circumstance, coupled with the wish to see her husband, that restrained her from submitting to the usual means adopted in all cases of this kind. Many cases of this particular presentation have occurred in our practice, but in no one instance were we ever led to imagine the life of the mother could possibly be in danger from this circumstance alone. The child will, in the best regulated practice, be often born dead, but by no means is it a necessary consequence that fatal results, as to the mother, should take place.

CONCUSSION OF THE BRAIN.—For the following interesting case of concussion of the brain, and valuable practical remarks, we are indebted to the observant and scientific Surgeon Wansbrough, of Fulham:

William Parish, aged eight years, fell from a tree, at a height of twenty feet, upon the turf of Parson's Green, at eight o'clock, A. M. July 1. The direction of his body in the fall was oblique; he struck his head on the occiput, and glided forcibly on the spine: he was taken up totally insensible. I saw him half an hour after the accident, lying stretched on his back, breathing deeply but regularly. The pupils were alternately contracted and dilated, but strongly susceptible to light, contracting immediately upon the window curtain being withdrawn. He had thrown up a quantity of foam, mixed with blood, and was vomiting the same matter when I saw him. The effort seemed to distress him exceedingly. Susceptibility of local stimuli was here conspicuously present; for upon being pinched, he hallowed loudly, but did not utter a word; upon being roused, he cried out lustily, and turned himself away from his disturber, then sunk into his former lethargy. He swallowed with little difficulty. From the symptoms, I could not doubt that the case was one of concussion. The pulse strong and full, yet soft, at 75-6, breathing regularly, &c. I directed him to be kept quiet, and all light excluded. In the course of the day I saw him four times. Twenty grains of jalap powder, and six grains of calomel, were given to him in gruel, with great difficulty. On the following day (second), he continued nearly in the same state. The powder had been repeated three times without any effect; an attempt to administer a lavement was rendered unavailing by the resistance he offered. In this state things were until six o'clock, when he became restless; the pulse rose in number to 100, and assumed the inflammatory character; his head incessantly moved on the pillow, and the least admission of light was sensibly felt by the iris and retina. Here then was reaction: inflammation of the brain was approaching with hasty strides. I immediately opened a vein in the arm, and took away twenty-four ounces of blood: the pulse sunk to 70, but fainting did not supervene. The vomiting, which had ceased six hours after the accident, now returned, but very little froth was ejected. The head was shaved, and a cold lotion kept constantly applied. Nine o'clock, pulse 96. I opened the temporal artery, whence I obtained about six ounces of blood. He became tranquil, and the pulse again sunk to 80. The irritability of the stomach rendered the attempt to administer any medicine useless, as he threw out his gruel, which till this period he had readily swallowed without difficulty. Half-past eleven P. M. I was sent for, as his parents thought him dying; he certainly appeared to justify their fears, for he tossed about the bed in restless agony, and was in high delirium. Twelve leeches were immediately applied to the temples, and a large blister ordered between the shoulders high up. I left him at twelve o'clock, with a quick small pulse, and in a state threatening a fatal termination ere my morning visit. I was agreeably surprised, however, to find him alive and better; the medicine had operated most copiously. The leeches

bled freely until three o'clock, at which time he had the first motion, a black fœtid mass.

Third, nine o'clock, A. M.—Urgent symptoms much abated: the boy answered incoherently, Yes and No; when questioned, complains of his head, and puts his hand to the back part of his head as the seat of pain; pulse 80, fuller and regular, but not soft. As he had had four copious motions, I ordered a free supply of gruel to assist the operation of the medicine. This morning the pupils contracted and dilated freely, and in unison. Twelve o'clock, repeated the powder; the blister ordered last night could not be applied, in consequence of his resistance and screams. I directed the attempt to be repeated at nine o'clock, and I learnt that it was again frustrated. Supposing a disposition existed in the mother and attendants *not* to apply it, I endeavoured to place it between the shoulders; but, although a child, three of us could not get him in a position to accomplish it: he writhed about, determined not to have it on; indeed, had it been applied, he would soon have rubbed it off. This attempt gave me an opportunity of observing, that it was not altogether disease, but a great deal of temper, that appeared in his resistance. I have often experienced the disadvantage of such a circumstance, when, in defiance of threats or entreaty, children of this description have borne out their resistance to the exhibition of a medicine the most essential to their recovery; and, if coercive measures be adopted, the resistance they put in force, combined with temper, if obstinate, produces sometimes a fit: thus I never advise parents to force their children to take medicine. I trust this will not be considered a digression, because it is not irrelevant to the case in point: among the poor, especially, this fact is conspicuous; and in the instance here stated I feel its force severely. The boy who is the subject of this case, is of poor parents, and, like the "wild ass's colt," unmanageable; for whilst he was insensible, the powders were fortunately got into the stomach, but after he became conscious of surrounding objects, neither the threats of his father, nor the entreaties of his mother, could prevail on him to swallow another mouthful, even of gruel, fearful lest it might be "physic." I had, therefore, no other dependence for success, than the lancet and the powders he had taken, which fortunately proved efficacious, for he gradually recovered, and at the end of five days from the occurrence of the accident, he called for more food than his parents could supply. At the end of a fortnight he became convalescent; and in three days after, that is, on the 18th of July, he was out of doors. I have seen him since, and there appears a degree of idiocy about him, which I understand has been noticed by others: whether he will recover this, remains to be proved.

It appears from this circumstance, that the brain sustained a severe shock, and that, had not the approach of inflammatory symptoms been detected, and their progress arrested, the boy would have been lost.

Upon comparing this case with the symptoms which some authors point out as distinguishing *concussion* from *compression* of the brain, it appears to me impossible to draw a correct inference in even the

generality of affections of the brain. In concussion, say the teachers of surgery, you have vomiting, dilated pupil, and sensibility to local stimuli; in compression there exists vomiting (but this is not always a concomitant symptom), dilated pupil, and insensibility to local stimuli; whereas in a case which has occurred in my practice, which was demonstrably *compression*, there existed vomiting, immoveably contracted pupils, with strong susceptibility of local stimuli. In the case of the boy, William Parish, the pupil was decidedly not dilated, and the susceptibility to local stimuli was highly conspicuous; so that it appears we are not warranted, in affections of the brain, to adopt decisive diagnoses from any particular symptom, or set of symptoms, as they may, and do exist, in each particular disease reciprocally, where there is no visible injury of the head: we should therefore, collect, arrange, and compare the appearances and symptoms as they arise at the bedside of the patient, to assist our judgment in forming a prognosis. To quote the words of a very able writer in support of my position, he says:

"To distinguish between a commotion and an extravasation (of the brain) by the symptoms only, is frequently a very difficult matter, sometimes an impossible one; the *similarity* of the effects in some cases, and the very small space of time which may intervene between the going off of the one and the accession of the other, render this a very nice exercise of the judgment. The first stunning, or deprivation of sense, whether total or partial, may be either, and no man can tell from which; but when these first symptoms have been removed, or have spontaneously disappeared, if such patient is again oppressed with drowsiness, or stupidity, or total or partial loss of sense, it becomes most probable, that the first symptoms were from commotion, and the latter from extravasation; and the greater the distance of time between the two, the greater is the probability, not only that an extravasation is the cause, but that the extravasation is of the limpid kind, made gradatim, and within the brain. Whoever seriously reflects on the nature of these two causes of evil within the head, and considers them as liable to frequent combination in the same subject, and at the same time considers that in many instances no degree of information can be obtained from the only person capable of giving it (the patient), he will immediately be sensible, how very difficult a part a practitioner has to act in many of those cases, and how very unjust it must be to call that *ignorance* which is only a *proper diffidence*, arising from the obscurity of the subject, and the impossibility of obtaining materials to form a clear judgment. Hence, how invaluable are the opportunities of examinations after death, and how culpable the negligence of that practitioner, not only to himself, but the community at large, who neglects to seize them when offered, nay, to ask it as a favour wherever there may be the slightest shadow of evidence wanting in the general symptoms to warrant any important conclusion! Let us, in this important point of our professional career, viz. the searching out for facts to guide our judgments, imitate the great John Hunter, not inded in transgressing the laws of propriety, but in that ardour which he evinced for inquiry; that thirst after knowledge which led him to seek for patho-

logical truths, where alone it is to be acquired, viz. on the ground of morbid anatomy."

REPORT OF DISEASES IN BERLIN.--Professor Hufeland has published two annual reports of the Royal Polyclinical Institution, of Berlin, which, in a practical point of view, are highly valuable.

In the years 1817 and 1818, two thousand nine hundred and seven patients were treated in this institution. Of these, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two were cured; twenty-six died; five hundred and thirty-seven were unrelieved or sent to other hospitals; one hundred and eighty-six remained under treatment. In this number, there were seven hundred and twelve children under twelve years of age; and among these, two hundred and ninety from one to two. The professor, after various details as to the funds and administration of the institution, presents a statement of the different diseases during the two years.

Acute Fevers.—One hundred and fifty-six patients were treated for *acute fevers*. Of these, ninety-one recovered, and three died; they were for the most part rheumatic, very few nervous. The rare occurrence of intermittents during these years is remarkable; eleven cases only were observed: there were seventy cases of inflammation of the lungs and of pleurisy, of which fifty-nine were discharged cured.

Pulmonary Consumption.—Of one hundred and five consumptive patients, twenty-five were discharged cured, or rather relieved; for the Professor adds, "which indeed is not always, in this disease, to be considered as a radical cure." There were, however, in the number of the convalescent, several cases of chronic inflammation of the mucous membrane of the windpipe, &c. which may be regarded as completely cured. In these, the decoction of the Iceland moss, with the bitter-sweet, and pearl barley, in milk: acetate of lead, and issues, were the principal remedies. In tubercular and catarrho-rheumatic consumption, the excellent effects of a strong decoction of the bitter-sweet (half an ounce daily; boiled from sixteen ounces of water to eight) combined with either the seeds of the water fennel, or rattle-snake milkwort, or Iceland moss, were very evident.

Rheumatism and Gout.—There were one hundred and eighteen patients afflicted with rheumatism and gout. Of these, seventy-seven were cured. Besides the ordinary remedies, decoction of the woods, guaiac gum, &c., the great utility of repeated blistering and cupping, were in several cases remarkable.

Nervous Diseases.—Out of ninety patients suffering from *nervous diseases*, forty-nine were cured. In epilepsy and Saint Vitus's dance, the oxyde of zinc was invariably found most serviceable. It was administered in gradually increasing doses, to the extent of half a scruple; and when the patient had become habituated to its employment, the sulphate of zinc was substituted for it.

Spasms in the Stomach.—Seventy-one individuals, mostly females, were admitted with *spasms in the stomach*, and fifty-three cured. Exposure to cold air, employment in damp situations, and hysteria, were its principal causes. Bismuth, henbane, magnesia,

winter's bark, cajiput oil, tonic and sedative plaisters over the stomach, and blisters, when the disease was of rheumatic origin, constituted the chief remedies. In some cases, where organic disease of the stomach evidently existed, the most conspicuous benefit was derived from the internal employment of the prussic acid, hemlock, and mercury, conjoined with mercurial friction.

Cutaneous Diseases.—One hundred and seventy-three patients were affected with chronic diseases of the skin: of these, one hundred and fifteen recovered. In obstinate herpes, the carburet of iron, given daily to the amount of a drachm, was sometimes successful. Crude antimony, also, given from two to three drachms a day, proved beneficial. In young children, magnesia and chalk, with rhubarb, were found to be adequate to a cure; hence proving the presence of acidity in the stomach to be the principal cause. The important influence exercised by the digestive system in the cure of cutaneous diseases was evinced in a case of erysipelatous ulceration of the foot, which, in three days, was cured by emetics and the mere external application of the wax plaster.

The extent of the city of Berlin affords an opportunity of observing many rare cases. The Professor notices seven cases of diabetes, of which the urine was analysed by Mr. Hermbstaedt; six of organic diseases of the heart; nine of watery head; two of dropsy of the pericardium; and several remarkable ones of morbid structure, which are uninteresting.

RHATANY ROOT.—Professor Huseland, physician to the King of Prussia, has pulished, in his "*Journal of Practical Medicine*," observations on the rhatany root, confirmatory of its very beneficial effects in cases of debility. The first is, *chronic or passive hæmorrhage* of the uterus." The patient was only twenty-five years of age. The second is a similar case in a person aged forty-five years; the third, painful menstruation, at the age of twenty-eight; the fourth, *fluor albus*; the fifth, *gout* and *fluor albus* in a subject aged thirty-eight; the sixth, fluor albus of long standing; and the seventh in a case of local debility in a young man. In all these cases, the Professor states, the Peruvian bark and the ordinary medicines had failed. Dr. Ruiz, of Madrid, in his "Treatise on the Virtues of the Rhatany Root," particularly notices its beneficial effects in similar affections of the uterus and vagina, dependent on relaxation or want of tone; and our countrymen, Sir Henry Halford, Dr. Maton, and Dr. Cheston, speak highly of its tonic power in cases of hæmorrhage and mucous discharges from debility. The foreign extract being made by solar heat, contains all the medicinal virtues of the root, whilst that made in the usual way in this country is as free from any medicinal property as the powder of rotten wood. The tincture made by dissolving an ounce of the foreign extract in a pint of brandy, in the dose of two tea-spoonsful with one tea-spoonful of the saturated tincture of cubebs, in a glass of water, two or three times a day, is an excellent remedy for the indigestion of gouty subjects, fluor albus, and gleet.

Since the foreign extract of rhatany has been scarce, many

wholesale druggists have sold a foreign extract of bark for it; and with it, we are credibly informed, most of the retail shops in the country are supplied. The foreign extract of rhatany, which is decidedly the best preparation of the root is brittle, and imparts a reddish hue to water; it is also transparent, very slightly bitter, and powerfully astringent. The article which is now very generally substituted for it, is soft, produces a muddy mixture when dissolved in water is very bitter, and slightly astringent. A translation of Ruiz's "Treatise on the Rhatany Root," has lately been published in London, by Messrs. Sherwood and Co.

MUCOUS MEMBRANE.—Dr. Hastings, Physician to the Worcester Infirmary, fancying that he has accumulated *many* facts *calculated* to throw additional light on acute and chronic inflammation of the mucous membrane of the lungs, has lately made a book, of the value of half-a-guinea, with the very benevolent and most laudable view of communicating the same to his brethren, for the benefit of suffering humanity. Before Dr. Badham's Essay on Inflammation of this membrane, technically termed *bronchitis*, Dr. Hastings supposes no work existed, in *our own* language at least, on this disease. By way of introduction, this learned physician devotes no less than sixty-six pages to the consideration of the opinions of dreamers, on the "kind and degree of contractility or irritability possessed by the blood vessels."—To have these determined, the doctor supposes "to be most important, because opposite opinions respecting them are held by men *whose distinguished* talents claim the greatest respect." To settle the opposite opinions of men of distinguished talents, is certainly a very modest undertaking for a physician on the commencement of practice.—It is really laughable to hear physicians contending respecting contractility of arteries, a point, which a surgeon's pupil, who has seen one operation, must be capable of settling. If the late Dr. Parry, of Bath, or his son, Dr. C. H. Parry, had been educated in a school of surgery, would they have ever disgraced the science of medicine, by publishing such ridiculous nonsense respecting the momentum of the blood, and the irritability of arteries? The action of the heart, Doctor H. is satisfied, does not depend on *nervous* influence, because Dr. Philip says so; and again, the circulation of blood in arteries, does not depend on the propelling power of the heart, because the said Dr. Philip "saw the circulation of blood continue with regularity in the mesentery of a rabbit for *half an hour after* the excision of the heart." Now the fact is, the muscular coats of arteries remain excitable a much longer time after the death of a rabbit; and their motion the doctor fancied to be produced by the transmission of blood through them: so much for *pre-conceived* theories. If the circulation really continued for the space of half an hour after the heart was removed, from whence came the blood? Again, we would ask the learned doctor, if the action of the heart is not frequently influenced by passions of the mind; and if so, is it not through the medium of the nerves? This long introduction is followed by a chapter, on the "general nature of inflammation," to which no less than eighty-two pages are *sacrificed*. In this most desultory dissertation, he

notices some experiments *he* made on the web of the feet of frogs, the results of which leave the subject of inflammation in the same state it was some hundred years ago. They prove however, that pure ammonia is really stimulating!!

With Dr. Hastings, Dr. Armstrong's opinion is like that of Dr. Philip, decisive. Dr. Amstrong, he says, observes in his work on Consumption, "that ulceration of the windpipe may be a consequence of inflammation of the mucous membrane of the bronchia (bronchitis). Now is it not more likely that inflammation of the membrane of the bronchia may be the consequence of ulceration of the mucous lining of the windpipe? The mucous membrane of the bronchia is a continuation of that of the windpipe; and when inflammation exists in the former, it, no doubt, extends to the latter, and *vice versâ*. The author supposes that Dr. Armstrong is the first physician who gave a sketch of *chronic bronchitis*, and pointed out the means of distinguishing it from tubercular consumption of the lungs. Dr. A., says he, notices the common degeneration of catarrh into this affection. Now upwards of ten years before Dr. Armstrong's work appeared, we noticed this species of pulmonary consumption in a "Treatise on the Antiphthisical Properties of the Iceland Moss, under the name of Catarrhal, or Membranous Phthisis;" and we there (p. 44) state, "that chronic inflammation of the mucous membrane of the windpipe and bronchia is the consequence of neglected catarrh." Indeed, our account of the disease, and the treatment of it, is so similar, that we suspect the Doctor could not have been ignorant of it when he wrote his treatise.

A long enumeration of varieties of a disease is considered by the ignorant a proof of superior knowledge of the malady. Dr. Hastings, aware of this fact, makes an imposing exhibition of this kind. Of the acute species of bronchitis, he has discovered seven varieties; and of the chronic kind, six! For these discoveries, it appears, the Doctor is indebted to the result of his judicious practice, allowing him the opportunity of inspecting several bodies after death. When a patient died of diseased viscus, either of the chest or belly, and the Doctor found the mucous membrane of the bronchia inflamed, he immediately pronounced the case to be a *variety* of one of his species of inflammation of that membrane! The disease of the bowels being the primary affection, was of no consequence; the mucous membrane of the bronchia was found inflamed, and, therefore, was a variety of one or the other of the species. Now had the doctor been much in the habit of inspecting lungs after death, he would have known that the blood vessels of this membrane are always more or less distended, or the bronchia loaded with mucus, (which is said to be the consequence of inflammation or increased action) even in subjects who were, apparently, free from any affection of the lungs, and who died of a disease very remote from the chest.

We have very carefully perused every page of the author's half-guinea book, in the hope of meeting with some part, if not the whole, of the accumulated mass of facts, which the *frequent* op-

portunities he has had of witnessing the diseases, have enabled him to collect: our labour has however been lost, for not one new fact or observation have we been able to discover. Whatever he may fancy is new, throws no additional light on the nature, causes, prevention, or cure of the malady. The facts therefore, if we have looked over them, can be of no importance to the public. The doctor's modes of treating his two species of the disease being very concise, we shall give them in his own words:—*The acute species*—"Moderate the excitement of the sanguiferous system, by general blood-letting, acidulated mucilagenous drinks, and abstinence from all stimulating food; promote expectoration, and perspiration, by antimonial and saline medicines; *direct* the *fluids* towards the surface, and relieve the congestion of the debilitated capillaries, by local blood-letting, blisters, and rubifacients"!!

The chronic species.—"The treatment should be chiefly directed to remove *inflammation* of the mucous membrane. The means employed for this purpose are various:" some, says the doctor, "act, by *directly enfeebling* the *force* of the circulation. Some moderate excitement, by *re-establishing* the *secretions* throughout the system"!! "Others act in parts in the neighbourhood of *that which is diseased*, and a *few* are *directly* applied to the inflamed membrane"!!! From the foregoing *practical* instructions and remarks, (which we should be ashamed to hear a pupil of ours make, who had been with us one year), it appears, that notwithstanding the author's *long* experience, and *frequent* opportunities of examining the seat of the disease after death, and of discovering two species of the disease directly opposite to each other, one being *acute*, and the other *chronic*, that the modes of treatment do not differ in one single point!!! The important discovery of two species of the disease, leads to no practical utility!! The fact is, the learned doctor has mistaken the *different stages* of inflammation of the mucous membrane of the bronchia, for *different species*; for the distinguishing symptoms of his supposed *acute* species, are those of the *first* stage; and those of his *chronic* species, those of the *advanced* stage. The disease, with respect to acute or chronic character, is greatly modified, by the state of the constitution. In an inflammatory, or excitable system, the advanced stage is attended with *acute* symptoms; and in an opposite state, the *first* stage has often a chronic character. These distinctions, the practice of the Worcester Infirmary, of which the author has given several illustrations, were certainly not calculated to induce a young practitioner to attend to minutiæ. The following case, the first of the *chronic* species of the doctor's long list, will enable our readers to judge of the state of medicine at the Worcester Infirmary, and will confirm the truth of the doctor's assertion of having had *frequent* opportunities of dissecting the bodies of patients who died of the disease.

"S. T., aged twenty-two, was admitted into the Worcester Infirmary, on the 20th of December, 1813. She was of a spare habit, fair complexion, and lax fibre. About a month before admission, she *took* cold, which brought on coryza, cough, and hoarseness.

In a week after the attack, the expectoration became copious, and slightly streaked with blood, and she was much distressed with a sense of straitness across the chest. On the day of admission, the hoarseness continued, but the breathing was not much oppressed. The cough was troublesome, and she expectorated a thick matter, consisting of a large portion of mucus mixed with some pus. The pulse was 90, the face flushed, and the respiration was accompanied with a slight wheezing noise. She was emaciated: she could lie on either side in bed, and had no fixed pain in the chest, but complained of a general sense of tightness there. A blister was applied to the chest. She took *ten* drops of tincture of digitalis three times a day, and some sulphate of magnesia occasionally!! The breath soon became more affected, and she gradually emaciated. The cough increased in violence. The expectoration was more copious and purulent, contained less mucus, and was tinged with a small quantity of blood. A flush generally appeared on the cheeks in the evening, and during the night the skin became damp. The pulse was quicker. She had still no pain in the chest; but the hoarseness continued, and some tightness was felt under the sternum. There was also some degree of wheezing. A perpetual blister was applied to the chest, and fifteen drops of diluted sulphuric acid were added to each dose of the tincture of digitalis. In two months after admission, the disease had assumed a still more formidable aspect. She had regular paroxysms of hectic fever. The cough was incessant, and the expectoration exceedingly copious, and mixed with blood. She died in the middle of March."

When this patient was admitted into the Infirmary, her complaint was evidently *incipient* consumption: whether or not the treatment was calculated to arrest the progress of the disease, we shall leave to our readers to determine. *Ten* drops of tincture of foxglove three times a day, and a little Epsom salt occasionally, to subdue a formidable affection of the lungs!! Well, well, the poor patient at any rate had no reason to complain of being over-drenched with medicine.

The Doctor has not only discovered several varieties of each of his supposed species of inflammation of the mucous membrane of the bronchia, but also a variety of dropsy attendant on the chronic species; and such is the importance of this discovery, that he has devoted no less than fifty-two pages to the consideration of "its *rise* and *progress, symptoms, treatment*, &c." The effusion of serum which takes place on the breaking up of the system of a consumptive patient, is for the first time to have rank in the class of primary diseases!! a new variety of dropsy, first discovered by Dr. Hastings, physician to the Worcester Infirmary!!! With this new discovery his book very properly closes; for the whole is what the trade terms a *dropsical* work, i. e. swelled out with words which convey no information, and which will not live to another edition. The Doctor dedicates his book respectfully to Dr. Philip, in consequence of the *endeavours* he has made to advance medical science, which, says he, "have been equally zealous and successful!!" This fulsome dedication developes the author's object for making a book.

Dr. Philip's abilities and his experiments have been so highly extolled by a certain editor of a Journal, that he thought it was his duty, as a loyal subject, to take up his residence near *His Majesty*. His friends in Worcester, indeed, reported, that his Majesty had solicited him to settle near him. Dr. Hastings, wishing to succeed to his practice in Worcester, determined on making a book, not only to give publicity to his own name, but to assist his *friend* Philip. Hence the dedication to Dr. Philip, and a reference to his work in almost every fourth page of his book!! We have, in a former number of our work, spoken in high terms of approbation of the experiments of Dr. Philip, with the view to encourage medical men to prosecute enquiries into the nature of the vital functions; for on no other knowledge can a *rational* system of medicine be founded. Now to what improvement in medicine have the experiments of Dr. Philip led, and what discovery has he made that throws any light on the vital operations, or the functions of the machine? The experiments on rabbits were very simple; and the results he has published to the world, we have reason to believe, existed only in his imagination. The experiments were not calculated, in our opinion, to ascertain the truth of the supposition, that a subtile fluid is conducted by the nerves from the brain, or any other part. If the nerves really convey a subtile fluid from the brain, of the nature of the galvanic or electric fluid, a doctrine we have always favoured, surely the fact might be ascertained by dividing a large nerve, as the sciatic, drawing forward the upper end by means of a non-conducting forceps, and presenting near the end a metallic conductor. Surely, if galvanic fluid pass down the nerve, its existence may be readily demonstrated by this experiment; if the light be excluded on applying the conductor, electric sparks would probably be visible. In the practice of several eminent practitioners, Galvanism, so highly extolled by Dr. Philip as a remedy for asthma, has entirely failed to produce any salutary effect. Many of his supposed facts,—as the circulation of the blood continuing in arteries half an hour after, of the extirpation of the heart,&c. being evidently imaginary, little dependance can be placed in what he has published on the subject. Dr. Philip in Worcester, where, we are sorry to say, medicine appears to be at a very low ebb, was a commanding physician; but Dr. Philip in London will be nobody, unless indeed he satisfactorily proves, that his experiments on rabbits were attended with the results he has noticed, viz. that the digestion which ceased in the stomach on dividing the par vagum, proceeded on the application of the galvanic fluid. When these results were denied by Mr. Brodie, Dr. Philip promised to repeat the experiments in the presence of Mr. Brodie and others; but although he has been in London some months, he has not yet found time to perform them, and we are told that, *for the present*, he has given up his intention. About forty years ago, Worcester could boast of having physicians and surgeons second to none in Europe. Russell and Cole were equal to the great Hunters and Pott; and Drs. Cameron and Johnstone, to the celebrated Drs. Fordyce and Cullen: it was then considered an excellent school for medicine and surgery. To this rank, we have

no doubt, from the well known abilities of Dr. Dodds and Surgeon Stevenson, it will soon be raised again.

RHEUMATISM.—Dr. Williams, of Ipswich, has found the wine of the colchicum seeds very beneficial in allaying the pain attendant on syphilitic affections of membranes of joints and bones (without nodes), which he terms venereal rheumatism. Dr. Robarts has also administered this wine in cases of rheumatism, evidently the consequence of the long use of mercury. The drastic property of the colchicum root and seeds, we find to reside in a gluten, which is precipitated by the subcarbonate of potass. In consequence of being attacked with acute rheumatism a fortnight ago, we had recourse to the alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds. The first dose, a large tea-spoonful, taken at bed-time, had the effect of subduing the fever, and of removing the pains in the head and extremities, but did not disturb either the stomach or bowels. The second dose, taken the following night, operated pleasantly on the bowels. The third dose, taken the subsequent night, had the same effect. A few days afterwards, in consequence of a slight return of the complaint, we had recourse to the same remedy, without gluten, which had settled at the bottom of the vial. In this state, the wine had the same salutary effect on the system, but none on the bowels; and we afterwards found an increased dose of the clear alcaline wine did not disturb the bowels. On examining the deposit, it appeared greatly to resemble the gluten of the juice of the wild cucumber; and its effects on the bowels are also very similar to those of the inspissated juice (elaterium). The wine, with the gluten and without it, has operated in the same manner on others as it did on ourselves. The evacuations produced by the turbid alcaline wine (with the gluten) are remarkably charged with bile; nearly as much so as in *cholera morbus*; it is therefore an excellent bilious aperient medicine. As a remedy for gout and rheumatism, the alcaline wine, administered, filtered or unfiltered, according to the state of the bowels, is unquestionably a most valuable discovery.

ACUTE PAIN *in the* STOMACH, VOMITING, *&c.*—Mr. Hull, an able surgeon of Norwich, has lately published the following case of very acute pain in the stomach, in which the external application of the nitric acid afforded immediate relief. The wife of a tradesman of Norwich, of fifty years of age, had been subject, for thirty years, to attacks of acute pain in the stomach; during which time, the intervals of ease never exceeded six months. Within the last twelve months she had experienced about five attacks. She is of a sallow complexion, and spare habit; and her countenance expressive of habitual suffering, or constant dread of pain. She had been under the care of several physicians, some of whom attributed her affliction to gall-stones. Their prescriptions afforded no relief. On the 14th of last October, she was attacked with a paroxysm. The pain, with intermissions, lasted throughout the day and night; and about ten o'clock in the morning, Mr. Hull saw her. He found her in a chair, bent forward, writhing, apparently, in great agony. Ether and fomentations had afforded no relief. Mr. Hull administered half a drachm of the ammoniated laudanum in Mendererus's spirit, which

suspended the disease about twenty minutes, when the pain returned, with very short intervals of ease. When he saw her again, the pain was very acute, attended with fever. She had taken, just before his arrival, a drachm of the ammoniated laudanum, and he bled her to the extent of twelve ounces, which produced no beneficial effect. She vomited a fluid coloured with bile. This operation was promoted by copious draughts of warm water, after which the pain was less violent. The paroxysms becoming more severe, Mr. Hull "brushed the skin over the region of the stomach (of the space of a large blister), with nitric acid, by means of a feather, when the patient exclaimed, You are burning me! but, almost in the same breath, I am in Heaven."

"The relief," says Mr. Hull, "may strictly be designated *instantaneous*. It was complete; delivering him from a fear of her dissolution, which he thought very likely to result from the frequent attacks of agony so severe. The nitric acid instantaneously excites considerable inflammation of the cuticle, which does not extend to the true skin. It does not corrode the cuticle, nor produce blisters. In a few days the cuticle is thrown off in patches; the healing process is generally attended with much more irritation than that from a blistering plaster. Even the most cooling ointment seems to increase the irritation; the healing process is likewise more tedious: a mild poultice agrees with it. As soon as Mr. Hull had "brushed the acid over the skin, he dabbed the part with a rag soaked in cold water, to dilute the acid that might remain, after it had effected a sufficient degree of irritation." Mr. Hull states, that he has employed the acid in the same manner in cases of rheumatism, particularly when the complaint had left an extremity and attacked the head. In such a case, we presume, he applied it to the part from whence it receded, or to an extremity. In acute attacks of spasms of the stomach, or of the intestines, the life of the patient very often depends on the speedy production of inflammation of the skin, by way of counter-irritation. In such cases, the nitric acid, (which, in half a minute, will excite as much irritation or inflammation as a blister is capable of doing in twelve hours,) is a very important remedy. Many foreign physicians employ boiling water for this purpose. Dr. James, physician to St. George's Hospital, a practitioner of great observation and scientific attainments, has long employed a strong liquor of ammonia, to excite immediate inflammation of the skin, in cases of acute and chronic inflammation; and this remedy he has found to produce as much relief in a few minutes, as the usual stimulating liniments generally do in as many days or weeks. He has also applied it to the skin over the region of the stomach, in a case of violent pain in that organ, attended with most distressing vomiting, with complete success. The relief was as rapid and complete as that produced by the nitric acid. The patient's life was evidently saved by this treatment. The preparation Dr. James employs, is much stronger than the strong liquor of ammonia of the London Pharmacopœia. It is kept by a few chemists only, under the name of "Aqua ammoniæ *fortissima*." Dr. James directs the hand to be applied over the skin immediately after it has been

rubbed with it. If the inflammation or irritation should be excessive, the part may be washed with a little vinegar."

WEN.—A paper from Dr. Coindet was lately read at a meeting of the Helvetian Physical Society, on the discutient properties of Iodine, on the enlargement of the thyroid gland, termed *Wen*. Of all the preparations the doctor employed, he found a tincture to answer best, an ounce of which contained forty-eight grains of iodine. Of this tincture he prescribed, for adults, ten drops in half a tumbler of water (with a little syrup), to be taken in the morning fasting, a second dose at ten o'clock, and again in the evening, or at bed-time. Towards the end of the first, he prescribed fifteen drops three times a day: some days later, when the iodine had had a sensible effect on the disease, he still increased the dose to twenty drops, three times a-day, to keep up its action. This dose he has rarely found it necessary to exceed, even when the tumour is enormously large, or of long standing. In most cases, he found it to remove every trace of the disease in six or eight weeks. He employed no topical remedy. Iodine gives tone to the stomach: it does not disturb the intestines, nor increase the secretion of urine, or skin. He has also found this tincture very beneficial in cases of uterine obstruction and debility. He recommends the tincture not to be made in a large quantity, because, if it be kept long, chrystals of iodine will form, which will weaken the preparation. The doctor was induced to give this article a trial, in consequence of having discovered it to exist in burnt sponge and Æthiop's vegetable *(fucus vesiculosus)*, both of which have been highly extolled by some writers as remedies for wen.

From Dr. Coindet's account of the iodine in cases of green sickness and indolent obstructions, it merits a trial in scrofula, particularly in glandular enlargements.

EDUCATION.—Sirs,—Rarely indeed do I presume to obtrude upon the notice of a discerning public (for reasons you, no doubt, will easily penetrate), nor should I have ventured in the present instance, had not your correspondent *Quintus* roused my *cacoëthes scribendi* (I hope the expression is correct, gentlemen), by opening with a tremendous battery on Dominus P—, as baffles all my fortitude and self-command to repress the impetuosity of my feelings.

I could have borne, with lamb-like meekness, the almost irresistible charges of your correspondent, had they been levelled against my own *caput*—nay, I could have given him great credit for the talent he has shown; since it is universally acknowledged, that to write with tolerable propriety upon a subject we do not understand, requires no small degree of ingenuity and skill. *Sed quid faciam?* (pardon me, gentlemen, if I wish to appear learned as well as others of your correspondents)—can I tacitly see a fellow creature, whom I had so *trimmed and roasted* in a former Gazette, assailed and mangled by another, while a drop of ink remained in my horn? No, gentlemen; and I should have whispered a few words to *Ominous Q.* had not this portentous signature thrown me in a fit of nervous debility, and paralysed my whole frame. But what, let me ask, is all this stir about? May not *Jane W——*, *Eliza J——*,

Ominous Q——, and a host of others "bewildered in the maze of schools;

"In search of *wisdom* lose their common sense,
And then turn critics in their own defence,"

without embroiling such subjects as you and I, Messrs. Editors? Yea, verily—it is no fault of ours, if

Some have first for wits, then poets past,
Turn'd critics next, and prov'd plain fools at last."

But *Quintus*, to silence *Dominus P——*, as well as to exhibit his own learning, quotes *Quintilian*, whom he conceives to be more analogous to our own times. How wonderfully apposite! And, as a farther corroborative of the flagrant errors of Dominus P——, Locke, too, comes in for his share—prodigious sagacity!

"O! thou proud Thames, beware in time,
Lest we thy waves to flames consign."

Now, gentlemen, for the mental health of countless generations yet unborn, let us examine the mighty labours of these newly discovered luminaries in the scholastic hemisphere; let us probe the wounds that "each on t'other hath inflicted," and let us apply some anodyne to soothe this *kuonic* disposition, lest the contagion spread abroad, and render your publication, not a *Gazette of Health*, but of *pestilence*.

Quintus may, possibly, accuse me of affecting to be witty. He may load me with opprobrium, and challenge "the decency of my notions of education." He may heap assertion upon assertion, and rank me among the *inferior* class of teachers, but this will neither convince me of the wisdom of his head, nor the goodness of his heart.

His fair colleagues, too, who, in the suavity of their nature, have raised the standard of rebellion against *fool's-caps* and the like, seemed to have overlooked the most probable mode of obtaining their wishes, and of annihilating these terrific instruments of "*endurance vile*," viz.—to inculcate the principles of docility into the hearts and minds of their young friends, with implicit confidence in the superior judgment of their teachers. This, and this only, can effect their purpose; this will obviate the necessity of all kinds of chastisement; this will cherish *passive obedience* and consequent affection; this will lay the basis of content and real worth; promote improvement, happiness, and *health*, in the rising generation, and confer a blessing on the latest posterity.

In answer to these *anti-foolscap Amazons*, Dominus P., probably with *more truth* than politeness, flatly charges parents with "sowing the first seeds of evil in the breasts of their tender offspring; with teaching them to equivocate, tell falsities, pilfer and rob."—And your correspondents, instead of denying these facts, and proving the contrary, vent all their fury and ammunition against the *paper pileus*, as Ominous Q. *delicately* calls it—and Quintus, with the condescension of *ideal* superiority, admits, indeed, that this said Dominus P. has not only *experience*, *information*, and zeal, but moreover a great *fund of wit*." I dare say, Dominus P. heartily wishes he could return the compliment. Then, in the next paragraph, he declares, "it is quite preposterous that a person with such

perverted notions of decency, and such erroneous ideas of education, should affect to be so severe or witty on others, who have come forward with the most praiseworthy feelings, to consider a subject of the first importance to the rising generation." I shall not comment upon this imposing rhapsody; I shall say nothing of the folly, madness, or inconsistency of persons, without experience or information, coming forward upon a subject of the highest importance, however praiseworthy their intention might be. I shall pass *sub silentio* the lamentable consequences that must ensue, should such *jejune* notions obtain in the world; and, "in the integrity of my heart," ask Quintus, "if the incidental abuses of any system be a fair argument against its general utility?"—Yet, such, and such only, are the objections adduced by his fair colleagues; such are the *cogent* reasons reiterated by these scholastic innovators; such is "the baseless fabric of a vision," which your correspondent brings forth Quintilian and Locke to support; and such are the plausible, but incalculably mischievous opinions, which, I conceive, Dominus P. wishes to overthrow.

Dec. 4, 1820. GENIO.

EMPIRICAL PAMPHLETS AND THEORIES.—Dr. James Johnson has attempted "to neutralize our analysis" of his book on Hepatic Derangement in the last number of his *medico-chirurgical* pamphlet, under the head of DOCTOR JOHNSON TO CERTAIN *liberal* REVIEWERS!!! "When a man," observes the *Doctor*, "is *violently* assailed, and *covered* with *all kinds* of abuse and obloquy, it is a pretty significant symptom of his prosperity, and the flourishing state of his undertakings, *whatever they may happen to be.*"!! We were certainly not before aware of the Doctor's speculations having proved successful. As a *practitioner*, the learned Doctor is certainly not known to the profession in London; and as to the flourishing state of his book, our readers are as capable of forming an opinion on it as ourselves. The learned Doctor's insinuation of our being actuated by a sinister motive, is similar to the assertion of the quacks, whose traffics we have exposed. Dr. Solomon stated, in a public advertisement, that, to a discerning public, the opposition his book and medicine had experienced from the medical profession, could not fail to prove a powerful recommendation; and the proprietors of Spilsbury's antiscorbutic drops have had the effrontery to assert, that, had not the wonderful cures the drops had effected in cutaneous affections and scrofula brought it into great public estimation, we should not have deemed it worthy our notice!!! The editors of another periodical work have also been guilty of the most audacious crime of speaking contemptuously of the Doctor's exertions to acquaint the public with his immense stock of medical knowledge. "I have been told," says he, "that the editors of that Journal have stated their determination to *write me down*, through the medium of their own work, and the Gazette of Health." Some quacks have made similar declarations, viz. that they were *told* that we were "handsomely paid to run down advertised medicines." Now, as no editor of any Journal writes for this work, we cannot but doubt the truth of this gentleman's declaration, of his having had such

information communicated to him—the base insinuation is pitifully mean. If it were our wish to see him lower than he is in the literary or medical world, we should advise him to continue scribbling; for no one is more likely to do it than himself. We beg to ask this great man, Who wrote *down* the *New* Physical and Medical Journal? When he joined those great medical luminaries, Drs. Shearman and Palmer, in the Editorship of that work, the circulation was nearly three hundred; but after his *scientific* analyses of works, and his fulsome panegyrics on his own books, the sale of the work decreased rapidly every month, till it fell to the mortifying number of fifty!!! Did Dr. Johnson '*write down*' that work, or did his coadjutors, or some *interested* opponent do it?

The doctor and, according to his statement, others, have discovered the *identity* of his reviewer in the Physical Journal, and the Gazette of Health. We do not pretend to have devoted so much time to the study of language as the learned doctor; for, regarding language as a vehicle for ideas, we attend only to the information it conveys; and the value of the matter is not raised or diminished in our estimation by fine-sounding words, either of a dead or living language; but so far as we are capable of judging of style, there is as much difference between that of the editors of the Physical Journal and our own, as exists between the language of Dr. Johnson and that of the said editors. Not only does our style of writing differ, but also our medical ideas. Lest the doctor should complain of us, as he has done of others, of having made "garbled misrepresentations," we give the *whole* of the sentence in his own words:—"The Medical and Physical Reviewer has, *I am told*, stated his determination to write me *down*, through the medium of the two vehicles above mentioned; FOR, *no one* fails to perceive the identity of the writer in both." This short extract is certainly a very pretty specimen of the English language, or the style of a man of science!!

In pointing out the striking absurdities in Dr. Johnson's Book, we conceived that we were discharging a duty to the public; and, as we have given our reasons, when we *presumed* to oppose his theories, for so doing, he should have attempted, at least, to refute those reasons, like a man of science, and not have descended to compliment himself, by attributing our remarks to interested motives. Towards him we can have no hostile feelings; and, from his relinquishing his system of writing and puffing, we can derive no advantage. By pointing out his errors, our object, with respect to himself, was more to assist him in writing him *up*, than in writing him *down*. If he were a man of discrimination, he would be aware that those reviewers are not his *real* friends, *who have been induced* to flatter his vanity. But, says the learned gentleman, in the list of subscribers to *my* work, the names of men of science appear. By dint of importunity, the *names* of men of science may be procured as subscribers to the most contemptible works, by those authors who can descend to such meanness. Of that list, can he point out one man of science who is also a reader? If he can, we defy that man to refer us to *one* idea or observation in *all* the Doctor's writings, of any practical utility, that originated with himself, or to

one page of *all* his writings, that does not contain an absurdity! The Doctor's writings are such as we should expect from a guineaship surgeon, whose reading has been confined to Marriot's Art of Healing, the Beauties of Shakspeare, the Dictionary of Quotations, and Dr. Watkins' Biographical Dictionary. For the public benefit, we have descended to notice the nostrums and writings of Dr. Solomon and other empirics; but to submit to any thing so truly *humiliating* as a controversy with Dr. Johnson, our readers cannot reasonably expect. If, however, the Doctor should dare to throw the gauntlet, we will engage that it shall be taken up by one of our pupils, who has not been studying medicine longer than three years. The doctor may even have the advantage of selecting the branch of medicine.

The Doctor has favoured his readers with an extract from a periodical work, expressive of the Editor's disapprobation of the review of Dr. Johnson's work in the "Physical Journal." The name of the writer of that article it was not convenient to him to mention. The circumstance of his giving a plate in his chiro-medical pamphlet, which originally appeared in the said periodical work, without even effacing the reference to it, will induce some of his *illiberal* readers to suspect, that he himself is the writer of the said rebuke, or that he is intimately connected with him. The Doctor complains, and, perhaps, justly, of his reviewers having neglected to notice his mode of treating the diseases he has introduced in his work. This was certainly an omission on our part; and as he has been so kind as to remind us of it, we promise to enter on the task, for our next number. If that article should not convince him of the sincerity of our declaration, that we wish to assist him in "writing himself *up*," we advise him to take the opinion of some of his scientific subscribers, who have had the advantage of experience, respecting the correctness of our "*practical* remarks;" and in case they should coincide with us, to avail himself of them; if, however, they should differ from us, we shall consider ourselves much indebted to him, to attempt a refutation of our assertions. The *learned* Doctor, we suspect, has still to learn that the *science* of medicine does not consist in an acquaintance with technicalities, and that egotism by men of science is considered a "pretty significant symptom of ignorance."

JARVIS *v.* SLOPER.—To the honour of the public, medical men are seldom under the necessity of proceeding against their patients for the recovery of their demands for medicine or attendance. During the last term, a cause was tried in the Court of King's Bench, in which Mr. Jarvis, an experienced surgeon and apothecary, of Little Compton-street, was plaintiff, and a Mr. Sloper, an attorney, defendant; to recover eight pounds five shillings, for medicines. The defendant had been under Mr. Jarvis's care nearly two months, and being in the habit of calling on him nearly every day, he very *politely* took the medicines with him, to save, as he stated, Mr. J. the trouble of sending them. The great difficulty with Mr. Jarvis was, therefore, to prove the delivery of the medicines, his assistant being seldom in the way when the patient took them. Soon after the bill was delivered, Mr. Sloper tendered five pounds, which Mr. Jarvis declined to take in full discharge of

his bill. Mr. Sloper defying Mr. Jarvis to proceed, he employed his attorney to recover his demand, from a conviction that his charges were unusually moderate, and that he was, in point of fact, entitled to some further remuneration for his advice, &c. To prove that, the defendant had been in the habit of calling almost daily on Mr. Jarvis, for nearly or upwards of two months, and that he generally took medicines with him, Mr. J. was under the necessity of bringing forward two of his daughters!! Mr. Gurney, who conducted the defence, contended, that medicines to such an extent were not taken by his client; that, in his case, they could not have been necessary; and very wittily observed, that the strongest proof that he had not taken the quantity charged, and which, of course, would have due weight on the minds of an enlightened jury, was, that the defendant was alive and well!! The charge for medicine for two months attendance was, in our opinion, very moderate; and the fact of the patient being alive and well, admits of no other fair inference, than that he was indebted to the medicine he had taken, and the advice of Mr. Jarvis, for the state of health he then enjoyed. The jury were of this opinion, and accordingly gave a verdict for the full amount of the plaintiff's demand. Now, had Mr. Sloper placed himself under the care of Mr. A. Cooper, or Mr. Cline, instead of Mr. Jarvis, he would have paid either of them, in that time, no less than thirty guineas; and, probably, to some chemist or apothecary, ten more for medicines prescribed; and his recovery would not have been more speedy, or permanent.—On this case, we shall make some further remarks in our next number.

MOLES, CATERPILLARS, &c.—It has long been known that the leaves of the elder-tree, put into the subterraneous paths of moles, drive them away; but it is not so generally known, that if fruit-trees or flowering shrubs be wiped with the green elder-leaves, insects will not attach to them. An infusion of elder-leaves in water is good for sprinkling over rose-buds and flowers, subject to blights and the devastations of caterpillars.

If pieces of woollen rags be placed in currant-bushes, or other shrubs, caterpillars uniformly take shelter under them in the night. By these means thousands of these leaf-devouring insects may be destroyed every morning, by removing these traps, and their tenants, at an early hour, and replacing the rags for the accommodation of others.

ZEST.—The author of a work, entitled "Apicius Redivivus, or the Cook's Oracle," (a Dr. Kitchenson) has lately advertised a composition under this name, for made dishes, chaps, sauces, &c. It represents it to be a beautiful "piquante and savoury quintessence of ragout, imparts to every thing it touches the most delicious and highly-flavoured relish ever imagined to *awaken* the palate. It puts the stomach and the temper of females in good humour, as most of the aldermen of the city can testify. A prince of Germany, celebrated for corpulency, was enabled to eat six pounds of beef-steak before breakfast, every morning, and, through his recommendation, it is getting into royal use." This very valuable discovery for epicures and debauchees, is composed of Jamaica pepper, finely ground, and common salt.

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 62. To FEBRUARY 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

Of Dr. BUXTON,

Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London, Physician to the London Hospital, late Physician to the Surry and Grove Lane Dispensaries, Author of a treatise on Cough, &c. &c.

This gentleman is the son of a respectable tradesman of the metropolis. Having received a classical education, and arrived at that period when it is customary to perform some character on the stage of life, he settled in the neighbourhood of Kensington as a dissenting clergyman. Here he expounded, with peculiar perspicuity, the sacred writings; and, in an animated style, often bordering on enthusiasm, he as happily demonstrated the superiority of the christian religion. He contended, with much force of argument, that christianity consists in *practice*, and that notwithstanding thousands of volumes were published annually in Europe, in defence of different theories, the whole lay within the space of a nutshell—in fact, that he who paid due homage to his Creator, and followed the advice of our Saviour, in doing as he would be done by, was a christian, whatever his profession may be. He not only preached, but practised christianity to the utmost of his power. He was, in fact, to his congregation,

"A guide, philosopher, and friend."

The effects of his Sunday admonitions were not very encouraging to a young sanguine preacher.—The leading part of his flock, although they paid great attention to his Sunday harangues, and were apparently "devout men," entered with such a degree of ardour into their mercantile pursuits, even the following day, which strongly indicated that this world so completely occupied their minds, that his future labours to direct their attention to a world hereafter, would prove unavailing.

Mr. Buxton, probably, in consequence of finding preaching an unthankful, as well as an unprofitable office, soon resigned his appointment, and accepted an offer made to him by Dr. Babbington, of an employment to collect specimens of minerals on the Continent. A short time after his arrival in the university of Gottingen, he was introduced to the leading professors, whose great attention encouraged him to continue among them, to acquire the information of the different branches of medicine, which would enable him, on his return to his native place, to prolong the lives of those friends who had betrayed so great an attachment to the loaves and fishes. After pursuing his studies, with uncommon ardour, for two years,

he returned to England, with a Gottingen diploma, and the collection of pebbles he had been enabled to collect, the latter of which proved very satisfactory to a few medical friends, and the former to his mercantile connection. Previous to commencing the fee trade, highly to his credit, he determined to devote some time to the practice of medicine in London, for which purpose, although he possessed a medical diploma from so respectable an university, he became a pupil of a London hospital. Such a condescension is a strong proof of a philosophic mind.—Having acquired a knowledge of the English practice, he applied to the College of Physicians for permission to exercise his talents as a physician within their jurisdiction, which, after the usual examination, and the payment of the fee, amounting to nearly sixty pounds, that learned body granted. According to a bye-law of the college, a person is an eligible candidate for a licence, who has resided *two* years at an university, previously to his obtaining a diploma, although, prior to that time, he had paid no attention whatever to any branch of medicine; hence, among the *regular* physicians of this metropolis are some, who two years anterior to their having a licence, were shool-masters and coal-merchants! This fact we notice only to point out the inconsistency of the college in granting licences to the graduates of a foreign university, who had only studied medicine two years, and refusing to admit those who had attended the London hospitals, (the first in Europe,) and had been in practice many years, even an examination. When such a man, with a non-resident diploma, solicits a licence from the college, they refuse to admit him to an examination, and, without any knowledge of his professional acquirements, tell him to go to some university, no matter where, so as it is an university, in order to entitle him to an examination. Some practitioners of the metropolis, with honorary diplomas, have been so annoyed by the insulting conduct of a few narrow-minded and sordid members of the College, in refusing to meet them in consultation on account of their not being *regular* physicians, that they have found it necessary to comply with their mandate, in order to keep up the confidence of their patients.

During their residence at the university, being as well acquainted with medicine as the teachers, and, in point of practical knowledge, superior to many of them, they employed their time in reviving their knowledge of the Latin language, to enable them to pass their examination at the College; and by this application of the mind at their periods of life, the youngest being forty, they lost much of that nicety of practice which is acquired only by long experience and close observation!!

On resuming their practice in London, they had the mortification to find that their connection had nearly deserted them, in consequence of having employed some practitioner in their absence, and of supposing, that the College had suspended them from the practice of medicine, in consequence of having found them incompetent to it. At the English universities, with which the London College is connected, a student cannot obtain the degree of M. D. till he has kept a certain number of terms, which he cannot do in a less period than ten years; so that he cannot be admitted a member of the

College till after the expiration of that time: but if an applicant for a licence has resided only two years at any other university, he is admitted to an examination; thus do the College tacitly acknowledge, that the English universities are not schools of medicine, and that two years residence at any other university is equal to ten either at Oxford or Cambridge. To avoid the insulting conduct of the College, many young men, on the expiration of their apprenticeship, instead of attending the hospitals and lectures in London, go to a foreign university, where they are at liberty to attend the hospitals and lectures on matriculating, the expence of which is only a few shillings, and where they obtain board and lodging at one-fourth the expence they would have been at in London or Edinburgh. Those gentlemen have the great advantage, on returning to London, of being considered by the London College as *regular* practitioners!!

As the number of English students at the foreign universities increase annually, we suspect the physicians and surgeons of the hospitals, and the lecturers on the different branches of medicine in London, will find it necessary to expostulate with the College on the impolicy, if not absurdity, of the bye-laws of exclusion; or, rather, induce the College to attend to the advice given them by the late Lord Mansfield—to admit all that are qualified to practise, and exclude only the ignorant. The late act of parliament respecting the education of surgeon-apothecaries, renders this bye-law nugatory; for the licence, or testimonial, of the Court of Examiners at Apothecaries' Hall, allows greater latitude of practice than the licence of the College; the practitioner possessing the latter being considered by that College qualified only to practise in cases of simple disease, whilst the former is deemed competent to the management of the most difficult cases. The testimonial of the Court of Examiners at Apothecaries' Hall, is also more creditable than the licence of the College, the examination, touching the competency of the person to exercise his art, being more strict. The majority of the College, at this time, being men of science, they will, no doubt, abolish their impolitic bye-laws, or adapt them to the present state of medicine.

For this long digression from the interesting memoir of Dr. Buxton, we beg his pardon. The Doctor, having obtained a licence from the College, he commenced the practice of physic in the city of London. He was shortly afterwards appointed physician to the Surry and Gravel Lane Dispensaries, the duties of which he discharged conscientiously. On the death of Dr. Hamilton, he became a candidate for the appointment of physician to the London Hospital, which his mercantile connection secured for him. He afterwards circulated among his friends a plan for an infirmary for consumptive patients, which their pecuniary contributions enabled him to carry into effect.

By keeping consumptive patients in an atmosphere of certain temperature, the Doctor had supposed the affection of the lungs might be suspended; and, that when the organic disease was not extensive, it might effect a cure. When the disease of the lungs has

advanced to that stage which constitutes consumption, the inhalation of air, at the temperature the doctor proposed, (about 65 Fahrenheit) uniformly accelerated the disease of the lungs, and by occasioning a distressing sensation of oppression and fainting, considerably aggravated his sufferings. As a preventive of consumption, it will, no doubt, operate beneficially; but when the substance of the lungs is diseased, the application of warm air to the internal surface is always injurious.

About ten years ago, the Doctor published a treatise on a species of cough, which he termed *winter* cough, because *he* had met with it only during the winter season: and, by a series of ingenious arguments, he endeavoured to prove, that, if there were no winter, there would be no winter cough. As a remedy for such cough, a warm atmosphere was, of course, highly extolled.—Unfortunately for the Doctor's hypothesis, those that are subject to this cough in winter, are also subject to it during very warm weather. The next and last communication the Doctor has made through the medium of the press, are, a few cases of diabetes, which we noticed in a late number. The Doctor, as a practitioner and general philosopher, is highly esteemed by his city connection; and from his intimacy with Dr. Babington, and other men of science, we cannot have a doubt of his possessing superior talents, and of his being a judicious practitioner.

PALSY.—Dr. Cooke, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and late Physician to the London Hospital, has published the first part of the second volume of his Treatise on Nervous Diseases, which comprises the "History and Method of Cure of the various Species of Palsy." The species, most prevalent in this country, is palsy of one side of the body (hemiplegia). When this disease is the sequel of apoplexy, which is generally the case, the treatment differs only in degree to that recommended for apoplexy. With the view of *preventing* an accession of this species of palsy, Doctor Cooke recommends moderate, or, in some cases, low diet and gentle exercise, especially in the open air. "The exercise," he says, "ought to be such as may encourage perspiration, without heating the body, or hurrying the breathing, and this some mode of gestation will afford. For persons *not* liable to fits of giddiness, and who are accustomed to riding on horseback, this exercise is the best." Walking, with attention to the circumstances above mentioned, may be tried; but in *old* subjects, and in persons of corpulent habits, he advises bodily exercise to be very moderate.

"Where a predisposition to apoplexy is shewn in early life, it is probable," says Dr. Cooke, "that a low diet, with a good deal of exercise, might prevent the disease; but when persons become advanced in life, before they take precautions, and are, at the same time, of a corpulent habit, and accustomed to full living, it might not be safe to put them on a low diet, it may be sufficient to reduce their mode of living, especially with respect to *animal* food. All heating liquors should be avoided as much as former habits will allow, and the *smallest approach* to intoxication to be carefully shunned." He prefers small beer to water, the latter being more

likely to occasion costiveness, which in apoplectic habits should be carefully avoided. In the apprehension of a paralytic attack, the bowels should be kept regularly open, by the use of a gentle laxative medicine, and a discharge from the neighbourhood of the head excited and preserved by means of issues, blisters, or setons." Such discharges, the doctor considers a powerful preventive.

"On the supposition that palsy of one side of the body depends on partial pressure upon or within the brain, the object of practice is to remove or to lessen the compressing cause, which," says the doctor, "cannot be *more rationally* done than by blood-letting, purgatives, emetics, diaphoretics, and discharges by blisters, issues, and setons. With respect to the propriety of abstraction of blood, in this species of palsy, physicians, both antient and modern, greatly differ. The necessity of such a measure must solely depend on the constitution of the patient. If the disease be the consequence of apoplexy, and the patient be of a plethoric habit, and subject to giddiness, drowsiness, &c. evidently from an over distended state of the vessels of the head, the loss of blood is unquestionably proper. Mr. Hunter was of opinion, that in palsy of one side of the body, we ought to extract blood very copiously, especially from the temporal arteries; and Dr. Cooke's experience is in favour of blood-letting, *when accompanied with strongly marked apoplectic predisposition*, and, under such circumstances, he has never observed any mischief produced by it. He "once saw this species of palsy *terminate* in a *fatal* apoplexy, soon after a free evacuation of blood, in the case of a gentleman, seventy years of age, of a plethoric constitution, and free mode of living; yet," says he, "I am convinced, that bleeding, all circumstances considered, was, in this case, highly proper, and that by a still more copious evacuation of blood, the total abolition of sensation and motion might have been prevented." The Doctor has omitted to state from what vessel the blood was taken. We have lately met with two cases of this disease, which terminated fatally, a few hours after the abstraction of blood from the temporal arteries. On the impropriety of taking *arterial* blood from an elderly subject, in cases of apoplexy or palsy of one side, a communication appears, in a late number, from a physician of very extensive practice. When the patient is of a great age, of a debilitated leucophlegmatic habit, dropsical tendency, &c. the Doctor states, "I should think it right to abstain altogether from bleeding, and from every other *powerful* mode of depletion, unless there was an evident great determination of blood to the head, marked by flushing in the countenance, throbbing of the arteries, redness of the eyes, &c. In doubtful cases, which are very common, the Doctor recommends topical bleeding, by leeches and cupping glasses, and to proceed as circumstances may direct, carefully watching, from time to time, the effects of the practice." Dr. Cooke, and all writers of medical experience, agree on the necessity of keeping the body open, with such aperients as the nature and circumstances of the case may indicate. When there is much determination of blood to the head, and the habit full, the Doctor recommends the neutral salts, as the Epsom, Glauber's, &c., but in debilitated, leucoplegmatic, or

dropsical habits, he advises a stimulating aperient, as aloes, calomel, scammony, &c. With respect to the use of an emetic in this disease, very opposite opinions exist. The French are very partial to the exhibition of this remedy; and in the treatment of this species of palsy, they place great dependence in it. When the disease follows apoplexy, especially in the beginning, in a plethoric habit, Dr. Cooke observes, "I should not venture to recommend an emetic." In regard to diaphoretics and diuretics, so much extolled by some practitioners, no dependance is now placed upon them; and the Doctor's experience will not justify a recommendation of them.

The antients, and many of the early moderns, certainly erred by a speedy and indiscriminate employment of stimulants in this species of palsy, under the supposition that it was a disease of debility. The stimulants which produce a determination of blood to the head are decidedly bad, as passions of the mind, electricity, and spirituous liquors. Those which occasion a determination to the bowels and extremities are, on the contrary, uniformly beneficial, as the internal use of capsicum, horse-radish, &c. Of the stimulants to be used externally, the Doctor recommends friction by the hand and flesh brush, as the most safe and efficacious. The most powerful external stimulant in such cases, is the mustard poultice.

Dr. Cooke has very judiciously collected the opinions of the most able of the antient and modern writers on the causes, prevention, cure, &c. of the palsy, the value of which he has greatly advanced by his own practical remarks. It is a production which we very seldom meet with on medicine—a "*multum in parvo*," every page possessing its quantum of solid matter, or intrinsic worth. We can assure those of our readers who may be desirous to obtain further information of palsy of one side of the body, and of the other species, as palsy of the lower extremities, gutta serena, &c., that they will not be disappointed by a reference to this work. They will soon discover, that the object of the Doctor is to communicate valuable information, and not to enrich himself by making a book.

Since writing the above, we have received a letter from a medical Gentleman of great practical experience and ingenuity, in which he proposes the use of the trephine in desperate cases of apoplexy. When the effusion of blood is between the skull and dura mater, which is very seldom the case in apoplexy, immediate relief may be afforded by removing a portion of a parietal bone; and if it has taken place just between the pia mater, or between the two membranes, it may be evacuated by the lancet. If after the operation there should be no appearance of an effusion of blood, the opposite side should be treppined; for when a side of the body is evidently paralyzed, the effusion is sometimes in the opposite side of the head. When the effusion is deep seated, the removal of a greater proportion of the skull, by allowing of an expansion of the brain, would, no doubt, prolong the life of the patient, and give him a chance of recovery. Such a practice is only to be justified by the absolutely hopeless condition of the patient, which, after copious bleeding, blistering, purging, &c., in the course of two days, may be determined by his remaining in a state of insensibility, with

stertorious breathing, dilated pupils, involuntary escape of the fæces, urine, &c. &c. &c.

STONE IN THE BLADDER.—To Mr. Richard Smith, senior surgeon to the Bristol Infirmary, a practitioner of acute observation and extensive experience, the medical world is much indebted for an interesting statistical inquiry into the frequency of stone in the bladder. Of secondary calculus, four instances only have come to the knowledge of Mr. Smith; viz. a male and female at the Chester Infirmary, by the experienced Surgeon Rowland; a man at the Bristol Infirmary, by the late Mr. Lowe; and a lad from Wales. The late Mr. J. P. Noble operated on the son, and Mr. Smith on the daughter, from the same parents, which is the only instance with which Mr. Smith is acquainted, of more than one case in the same family, although his inquiries have been directed to the point, and many of the boys he has cut belonged to numerous families. At the Bristol Infirmary, during the last 82 years, there have been cut about 361 persons. From the divisions made by Mr. Smith, it appears, that the numbers have regularly diminished in a very remarkable degree, so that within the few last years, there are admitted into that Infirmary from three to four in two years, and formerly there have been six in one year. In London, at St. Bartholomew's, Guy's, and St. Thomas's hospitals, about 27 are cut annually. The failures here considerably exceed, in proportion, those at the Bristol Infirmary. It is a very curious fact, that at the Hereford Infirmary, not one case of stone in the bladder has occurred since the Infirmary was instituted, and the disease, we believe, has scarcely been known to happen in that county; the purity of the water, and the general use of cider, may be the cause. The disease, in proportion to the number of inhabitants, is most prevalent in Norfolk. In Scotland and Ireland it seldom occurs.

THE LONDON PHARMACOPŒIA.—A few weeks after the College of Physicians published a corrected edition of their pharmacopœia, three translations appeared; one by Doctor Powel, with long notes, chiefly chemical, at the price of twelve shillings; one by Dr. Thornton, with a few notes, at four shillings and six pence; and one by ourselves, with a few medical notes, at the same price. Within the last two months, another translation has appeared, by Mr. Collier, an able chemist and surgeon of London, at the price of ten shillings and sixpence, so that the profession have now a greater choice of translations than they have had at any preceding period. The College of Physicians, on publishing a revision of their phamacopœia, always appoint the gentleman who took the most active part in it, to publish a translation, who, as a means of remunerating him for his trouble, having the superintendance of the printing of the work, has the great advantage of bringing out the translation on the same day as the Latin edition. The pharmacopœia, both in Latin and English, being considered the property of the College, no person ever ventured to publish a translation of the Latin edition, till the last revision appeared.

Mr. Collier has, for some years, devoted much of his time to the

instruction of medical Tyros in the Latin language, and the departments of medicine, particularly chemistry and botany, so as to enable them to acquit themselves with credit before the court of examiners at Apothecaries' Hall. To effect this, in as short a period as possible, he undertook a *literal* translation of the pharmacopœia, to put into their hands.—In the preface we find the following very just remarks.

"If we only reflect a moment on the routine of a country practitioner's education, we shall not much wonder at the shallowness of his classical attainments. A lad is taken from school at fourteen or sixteen, when he is considered by his sapient parents as a second Erasmus, that is, he shall be able in half an hour to construe a hundred lines of Horace, and ramble through a page of Homer with tolerable facility. He is immediately put in the trammels of a five years noviciate, and in those five years faithfully unlearns what he had learned the five years before. Whether what he learns by dispensing and spreading plaisters be equivalent to the loss of his classical knowledge, is to me a matter of doubt. However, he comes up to town with a full pocket and empty head, and too often returns with a vacuity in both.

"Then for his chemistry, he attends one or two courses of lectures, when his mind must necessarily be occupied with the studies of anatomy, physiology, practice of physic, surgery, &c. &c., and he runs from lecture-room to lecture-room, imbibing principles and hypotheses from one, which, in all probability, will be flatly contradicted in the next."

The late act of parliament for the better regulation of the practice of surgeon-apothecaries through England and Wales, renders a knowledge of Latin indispensable. The Court of Examiners complain of many pupils having appeared before them for examination, who were acquainted only with what is vulgarly termed Medical, or Dog Latin, and, also, ignorant of the rudiments of chemistry. It was in consequence of these complaints, that Mr. Collier undertook the office of giving lectures on chemistry, &c., and of instructing pupils in the Latin language.

On the many errors committed by the College, even in the *corrected* edition of their new Revision, Mr. Collier states, he did not consider himself authorised to animadvert, and expresses a hope that in their next work they will be corrected.

The College of Physicians have been some time engaged in preparing a new Pharmacopœia, which, from the well known abilities of those who are actively engaged in it, we may venture to predict that the work will be creditable to them. We are glad to find that they have determined to make very little alteration in the names of the chemical preparations.

Mr. Collier's translation is correct, and his chemical annotations are very judicious. The only objection we can discover to the work is, the high price he or his publishers have put on it. The retail price of a book, consisting of 230 pages, (octavo demy) with large type, should not exceed six shillings. The author's notes, however, add greatly to the value of the work.

COLCHICUM SEEDS.—Dr. Williams, of Ipswich, has published three cases of Syphilitic Rheumatism, and other diseases, with some practical observations, to illustrate the superior beneficial effects of the Colchicum Seeds to the root of the plant.

Syphilitic Rheumatism.—The celebrated Frederic Hoffman, in his System of Rational Medicine, observes, that venereal rheumatism was scarcely to be subdued, except by decoction of the woods, mercurial and antimonial alteratives;—a mode of treatment, which, however successful in some instances, has often failed in the hands of the most skilful or experienced in the profession, both in public and private practice, notwithstanding a rigid perseverance in the use of them, with powerful auxiliaries for a long period.

It is, invariably, a disease of debility, seldom accompanied by fever, occasionally by eruptions and blotches on the skin, and by nodes,—always by emaciation, and by pains, affecting principally the bones and larger joints.

During our late contests with France, many young and brave soldiers were discharged in consequence of being afflicted with this malady; the parishes to which they belonged, subjected to very considerable expence in providing substitutes; and the poor afflicted objects of disease doomed to subsist on parochial relief, through a painful existence, which, Dr. Williams supposes, the timely application of the wine of the seeds might have rendered actively useful to themselves, their families, and their country.

Dr. Williams, having frequently witnessed the melancholy effects of this malady, both in occasioning premature old age, and rendering the unhappy subjects of it cripples for life, "it is with no little satisfaction," says he, "that I have been enabled, since my former communication, to afford, not only almost immediate relief by the exhibition of the seeds of the colchicum (autumnale), but even an early cure, to three individuals labouring under this agonizing and debilitating disease." The first of these cases will afford sufficient encouragement to the professional man and the patient, not to despair under circumstances the most desperate and deplorable. It may be necessary, however, to caution the medical practitioner against the too sanguine expectation of the success of the colchicum seeds, when the patient is afflicted with *pains* in the bones, or their fibrous coverings, *arising from nodes;* for in two instances under his observation, and some of our own, in which there was irritable nodes on each tibia, the disease resisted the powers of the medicine. The following are the three cases, in which the Doctor found the wine of the colchicum seeds to succeed.

Case 1.—J. M., aged thirty-six, a carpenter, naturally of a good constitution, and free from hereditary disposition to disease, contracted the syphilitic disease, about the year 1807, and whilst under an alterative course of mercury, caught a severe cold. He was subsequently attacked with ague, which, in a few weeks, was subdued; but excessive weakness followed, with pains, greatly augmented at night, in the larger joints, eruptions of a copper colour on the forehead, and profuse perspiration. In this state Dr. Williams first saw him, July, 1808; and prescribed the oxymuriate of mercury,

compound decoction of sarsaparilla, &c., which enabled him, in a few months, to pursue his usual occupation in a distant county: but the relief was temporary; for early in the ensuing spring, his pains and weakness returned, accompanied with swellings in the knees and ancles. Upon his second application to him, July, 1809, he advised a warm bath, and also the strong mercurial ointment, which was used to the extent of several ounces.

This treatment again relieved him, and enabled him to seek employment in London; but from this period, for several years, he was subject, occasionally, to attacks of violent pains in the bones in different parts of his body, which, although they yielded, in some degree, to the measures prescribed, were never entirely subdued. In June, 1819, he became the patient of a surgeon in the neighbourhood of Ipswich, who applied every remedy adapted to his situation, among which, the compound decoction of sarsaparilla was prominent; but all the usual remedies failing, the doctor was again consulted by him in July last. At that time, he was a deplorable object, tormented with pain in his joints; his feet and ancles considerably swelled; breathing much oppressed; pulse quick and weak, loss of appetite and sleep, and his whole frame emaciated, and apparently verging towards the grave.

In this state, July 23, his surgeon still in almost daily attendance, he began taking, by the advice of the doctor, the wine of the colchicum seeds, in the quantity of a drachm and a half twice a day, in water. In a fortnight he found material benefit in every respect, and continued progressively to improve; so that at the end of two months, he considered himself free from his complaint, except a slight degree of weakness. His general health was so renovated, that when he called upon the doctor, a few days since, to request his assistance in obtaining for him a public house in this town, he could scarcely believe it possible, that the emaciated object, whom he had beheld a cripple four months previously, was then standing before him in comparative health and vigour. Thus a formidable disease, resisting powerful and long continued remedies for twelve years, yielded to the wine of the colchicum seeds, in the short space of two months; and the patient declared he could walk twenty miles in a day, without experiencing the slightest degree of swelling or pain.

Case 2.—W. F., aged twenty-four, a blacksmith, contracted the syphilitic disease, in the autumn of 1818, when he applied to a neighbouring farrier for relief, who was supposed to be well skilled in the treament of disease. In a few weeks, after taking several doses of strong purgatives, and two boxes of mercurial pills, which had no sensible effect on the gums, he was considered well. In the autumn of 1819, he was attacked with pains in his arms, the knee, and ancle joints; but, by the assistance of a surgeon, the pains, though not wholly removed, were so far alleviated, that he returned to his laborious occupation. His nights, however, were very restless, by an exasperation of pain in his knees and legs. In this state, he continued his work, suffering more or less from the pain, till August last, at which period he gave up his employment, and applied to Doctor Williams for his advice, when he prescribed, for a fortnight,

the daily use of calomel, opium, and tartarised antimony, with very little benefit. The pains becoming more severe, he directed him to take, night and morning, from one to two tea-spoonsful of the wine of the colchicum seeds, which, in three weeks, entirely subdued his pains. Since that period, he has twice seen him, in very comfortable health.

Case 3.—J. F., aged thirty-six, a carpenter, of spare, but healthy habit, contracted syphilis, at Michaelmas, 1819. He applied to a non-professional man, in this neighbourhood, for assistance, and thought himself well in a few weeks; but, in the spring of the present year, he became languid, lost his appetite and sleep, was troubled with pains, which were augmented at night, and continued more or less until September, when, in a very emaciated state, he applied to Dr. Williams. He prescribed the compound powder of ipecacuanha daily, for a fortnight, which lessened his pains in so trifling a degree, that he was induced to order him from one to two tea-spoonsful of the wine of the colchicum seeds, twice a day, in peppermint tea. At the end of a month, he entirely lost his pains, and, in a great measure, recovered his health and strength.

Painful Menstruation, &c.—In a public and private practice, which has afforded Dr. Williams the opportunity of seeing, weekly, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred patients, he states, that he has sought, for several months, every opportunity of prescribing the colchicum seeds, twice or thrice a day, for the removal of those distressing pains in the back, loins, or chest, which arise either from a suspended, partial, or an irregular action of the uterus; but more especially for the relief of those anomalous pains, to which young females are subject, prior to the period of puberty,—so frequently distressing to the patient, and the cause of so much solicitude to the anxious parents. In all these painful affections, he has experienced the most decided testimony, of the safety and efficacy of the seeds, in a greater degree, than he has witnessed from the employment of any other remedy, both in removing the pains, and restoring the general health. But to render the success of the medicine more certain, he recommends particular attention to be paid to the state of the bowels, and the patient to abstain from fruit, fish, broth, fat meat, eggs, puddings, and pastry,—in short, from all food of a flatulent nature, as well as to diminish one half of the quantity of liquids usually taken: and should such a plan, with regard to diet, be continued for some time subsequently to the removal of the complaint, he states, that a permanent recovery would be more certainly promoted. The purgative operation, which the seeds now and then produce in some constitutions, may be easily prevented from extending too far, by reducing or occasionally omitting a dose. In the diseases just alluded to, dependent often on the want of power in the uterus, he has sometimes directed the wine of the colchicum seeds, beginning with forty or fifty drops, and gradually increasing them to a drachm; but he has more frequently prescribed the ammoniated spirits of the colchicum seeds, noticed in a former number, prepared, by macerating, for ten days, two ounces of the seeds in a pint of the aromatic spirit of ammonia,—a medicine he

considers of greater value, when acidity or flatulency prevails, than the wine of the colchicum seeds, and better adapted to the palates of those who object to the flavour of white wine.

Asthma.—Dr. Williams notices an instance of the efficacy and safety of the ammoniated tincture of the colchicum seeds, in a case of asthma.—The subject was a female, aged twenty-six. He found her most severely labouring under a spasmodic affection of the windpipe, attended with a violent and incessant coughing, and a sense of immediate suffocation. He ordered a drachm of the tincture to be immediately administered, and to be repeated every two hours during the continuance of the complaint; in an hour and a half, she experienced great relief, and in four hours, fell into a comfortable sleep. The following morning, the paroxysm had ceased; and the patient, who had taken five drachms, felt not the slightest inconvenience from the medicine. Two grains of solid opium had been given, with no sensible effect, two hours previously to the doctor having seen her, by the professional attendant; who, when this young person was similarly attacked two years before, was reluctantly obliged to administer one ounce of tincture of opium, and one ounce and a half of sulphuric æther, before he could overcome the spasm, or satisfy the anxiety of her friends. The doctor concludes his communication of the efficacy of the colchicum seeds, with the following observations:—

"I cannot conclude this paper, without a few observations on the *decided superiority* of the *seeds* of the meadow saffron over the *root* of that plant,—a superiority, I now consider, not merely a matter of conjecture, but proved to demonstration. The exhibition of the *root* has been confined, in a great measure, to gout and acute rheumatism, and sometimes, doubtless, with extraordinary success; but the diversity of its operation, not referable to dissimilar conditions of animal excitability, has rendered it an untractable, because a most capricious remedy. Sometimes, it has appeared totally inert; at others, productive of sudden, long continued, and excessive action of the stomach and bowels; and occasionally, it has proved fatal. An instance of the latter occurred not long since, in the hospital practice of a physician of distinguished abilities, who, convinced that the death of one of his patients was attributable to the noxious effects of the root, assures me, no consideration should ever induce him to prescribe it in future.

"The colchicum seeds, on the contrary, so far from being limited in their application in two or three diseases, may be safely and beneficially extended, nearly to the whole range of painful diseases of the asthenic kind, to which I have hitherto chiefly directed their use. They seldom fail of the desired effect; and invariably operate without the occurrence of any of those distressing and alarming symptoms so prevalent in the exhibition of the root;—in a word, no peculiarity of the constitution, no period of life, forbids the sanguine hope of success in the application of the seeds; and few articles in the *materia medica* are entitled to juster pretensions to uniformity of effect, or more generally extended benefit; and the abundance which various parts of this country produce, will amply supply, not only

our own demands, however numerous, but extend their healing influence to those countries where nature has not rendered the plant indigenous."

INFLAMMATION OF THE INTESTINES.—The ninth volume of the Edinburgh Journal contains four cases of this disease, in which a Mr. Smyth employed cold water externally and internally, in addition to the usual remedies, with success. A Dr. Mac Carthy, who has lately put this mode of treatment to the test of experience, speaks very favourably of the result. He abandoned altogether the use of purgatives or laxatives, whilst the morbid irritability of the stomach continued. He directed the "*coldest water*" to be taken freely, and "cold wet towels repeatedly to be applied to the abdomen." After this treatment, the patient experienced great relief, and felt much composure, which induced the doctor to give a full opiate, combined with a liberal dose of calomel. "This," says he, "with *prompt* and *judicious* blood-letting, I have found the most certain mode of subduing this formidable malady." He illustrates this with the following case, and promises to offer some further observations on the subject at some future period:—

"October 30th, 1820. Jeremiah Hourahane, a healthy robust young man, was seized yesterday morning, whilst at work in his farm, with severe rigors; violent pain in the umbilical region; occasionally great torture, constant vomiting, and hiccough; countenance ghastly; tongue dry and parched; pulse 80, full, and oppressed; skin cold; remained for twenty hours without medical assistance; was once blooded in the arm; drank some warm wine and whiskey without advice; no alvine evacuations for the last two days; complains of great thirst, and a burning sense of heat along the course of the alimentary canal." The doctor ordered thirty ounces of blood to be taken from the arm; the ordinary drink to consist of cold water, and cold water to be applied over the region of the belly, by means of linen cloths, and the following clyster to be administered:—

Take of Tobacco Leaves, half a drachm;
Water, half a pint.

Infuse over the fire for half an hour, and then strain.

"October the 31st. The patient had passed a very bad night; no abatement of pain; some relief from the cold applications; constant hiccough; countenance pallid; pulse 140, and hard; the tongue dry and furred." He ordered an abstraction of blood until the patient fainted; the cold water to be continued, the following pills to be taken immediately, and the clyster to be repeated:—

Take of Opium, powdered, two grains;
Calomel, twenty grains.
Mix, and divide into two pills.

"In the evening the stomach retained the cold water, which he had drank freely during the day; pain was not so urgent; he had had some sleep; no alvine discharge; pulse 130, and sharp." He ordered a blister to the abdomen.

"November the 1st. He was better this morning. Experienced great relief from the cold drinks; pain considerably abated; some

mercurial soreness at his gums; blister operated well; no alvine discharge." He ordered the following mixture:—

Take of Sulphate of Soda, two ounces;
Boiling Water, one pint;
Diluted Sulphuric Acid, one drachm. Mix.

Two ounces to be taken every hour, till the bowels are freely opened.

On the evening visit, he was told that his bowels had been freely moved; pulse 100; increase of saliva; total absence of pain. Leave off taking medicine.

"November 2d. He feels better in every respect—is convalescent."

Here the doctor's communication ends. The employment of cold water internally and externally, during the use of calomel, will, no doubt, startle some of our non-medical readers, particularly those delicate ones, who consider it very improper even to wash, or put a hand into cold water, during the use of mercury. The practice adopted by Dr. Mac Carthy has been, for many years, very common in tropical climates. The dose of twenty grains of calomel is, in our opinion, much too great, and the propriety of administering an infusion of the leaves of tobacco glysterwise, is questionable.

WORMS.—Dr. Bremser, in a late publication on Worms, divides the remedies employed for their destruction, or expulsion from the intestines, into three classes: viz. *mechanical, specific, and tonic.* The first class comprises the filings or powder of tin, cowhage, powdered charcoal, and raw carrots. These articles the doctor believes to be capable of removing worms from the intestines, but he recommends them to be combined with other medicines, because they do not possess the property to remove the cause of their production. In the second class, the author notices cold water, valerian root, onions, garlic, worm seeds, tansy, Jerusalem oak, goose-foot, the Caroline thistle, Angelica bark, linden seeds, Indian pink, Surinam root, cavadilla, the green rind of walnut, assafœtida, camphor, male fern, petroleum, oil of turpentine, cajeput oil, animal oil, empyreumatic oil, fluid mercury, and muriate of barytes. Long draughts of cold water, taken frequently, after a purgative, is highly extolled on the authority of Rosentein and Pallas. Dr. Bremser thinks that salt water acts more efficaciously. The petroleum is recommended to be given in the dose of from 20 to 30 drops, for three mornings successively, and a purgative on the fourth, for the tape worm. The white petroleum has been long used with success in Egypt, as a remedy for tape worm. Larrey says that this worm is but rarely seen in Egypt, and that petroleum is not known there; this, however, is not correct, for in many parts of Egypt there are wells nearly full both of the black and white petroleum. The white petroleum is in great repute, as a vermifuge, in Italy. The muriate of barytes is much recommended as a powerful remedy for the long round worm; being a powerful poison, much caution is necessary in its administration. The seeds of the Jerusalem oak are frequently used in America. Chalmers says, that they are the active ingredient in a medicine, which has been long celebrated in America for destroying worms. The green rind of walnut, in the form of infusion,

or extract, has been much recommended by modern and antient writers.

A physician to a public institution in London, whose practice has been very extensive in the diseases of children, has found the external application of oil of turpentine to the abdomen, as efficacious as its internal use. The third class, viz. tonics, as the Peruvian bark, rhatany root, gentian, rust of iron, &c., are recommended to strengthen the stomach and intestinal canal, after the use of a purgative, or the other vermifuge medicines.

The long Round-worm.—For the destruction of this worm in children, Dr. Bremser recommends a dessert-spoonful of the following electuary, to be taken morning and evening:

Take of Tartarian Southern-wood Seed, bruised,
Tansy Seed, ditto, of each one ounce;
Valerian Root, powdered, two drachms;
Jalap Root, powdered, half a drachm;
Sulphate of potass, a drachm and a half;
Oxymel of Squills, sufficient to form an electuary.

After taking this electuary three or four days, the intestinal evacuations become more copious and frequent, and commonly much mucus and a few worms are expelled. When the latter effects are not produced, the Doctor recommends the dose to be increased, or to be taken more frequently. If, with this addition, the desired effect follows, he advises the electuary to be continued, proportioning the dose, so as to occasion only a slight augmentation of faeces and mucus, administering also, at proper intervals, the following mild aperient:

Take of powdered Jalap Root, one scruple;
——— Senna Leaves, half a drachm;
Sulphate of Potass, one drachm;

Mix, and divide into six parts, one part to be taken every hour, until it operates. According to Dr. Bremser, it is a matter of indifference, whether or not worms are expelled during the use of these remedies; sometimes, he says, they are not passed, until all the symptoms of worms have disappeared. In patients of pallid complexion and general debility, he orders a tonic mixture to be taken, to prevent relapse. With respect to diet, he says, the patient should abstain from the extensive use of farinaceous substances and fat meat, and should eat, in preference, dry bread. He has found this treatment so efficacious, as seldom to require any thing else. The most efficacious and safe remedy for the destruction of this worm, both in children and adults, is the basilic powder, noticed in our second number.

Ascarides.—The destruction of these worms it is very difficult to effect, in consequence of their being enveloped in mucus, and the great rapidity with which they are generated. Dr. Bresmer has found the following mode of treatment sometimes successful, and always to palliate. In the first place, in order to remove the worms from the upper part of the large intestines, he directs the electuary, recommended for the long round-worm, to be taken morning and evening. If it should not operate on the bowels, he

recommends a small quantity of jalap powder to be added to each dose; besides this, he advises the following lavement to be administered twice a day:

Take of Wormwood and Valerian Root, bruised, of each an ounce;
Tansy Seed and Orange Peel, bruised, of each half an ounce;

Mix, and infuse a table-spoonful in a pint of boiling water, in a close vessel, for twelve hours; the liquor to be then strained through cloth, and a spoonful of the fœtid oil of hartshorn to be added. If the patient be what is generally termed nervous, he recommends a spoonful of fresh hog's gall to be added to each clyster. The patient, he adds, should endeavour to retain this mixture as long as possible, and to persist in the use of the remedies several weeks. A clyster of olive oil he has found to allay the itching generally attendant on this disease. Clysters, of the decoction of the Surinam root, aloes, lime water, sea water, strong infusion of worm seeds and Indian pink, pomegranate, decoction of aloes, and infusion of tansy, are occasionally very beneficial in bringing away these worms, when lodged in the lower part of the rectum. When there is much irritation in the rectum, or externally about the anus, a decoction of oatmeal, with castor oil, is recommended.

Tape Worm.—The symptoms of the presence of this worm, do not differ from those denoting the existence of the long round-worm. The expulsion of parts of it, is the only certain proof of its existence. The ordinary vermifuge medicines, in general, fail in producing its entire expulsion. To prevent its reproduction, is also very difficult. Dr. Bremser states, that he has never known this species to be expelled by the ordinary remedies. In the course of ten years he has had five hundred patients with the disease, amongst whom there were two children, of about a year and a half old. Only four had recourse a second time to the use of the remedy he employed; and, in one only, had the disease re-occurred in the course of two years. For the expulsion of this animal, he commences with the electuary recommended for the long round-worm. When that quantity is taken, he advises the patient, having his mouth full of water at the time, to take two large tea-spoonsful of the vermifuge oil of chabert, which is made in the following manner:

Take of Fœtid Oil of Hartshorn, one part;
Rectified Oil of Turpentine, three parts;

Mix them well together, and let them stand for four days; then distil the mixture in a sand bath, and draw off three-fourths of the liquor.

Dose for an adult, two or three tea-spoonsful, once in a day.

The mouth should not be rinsed after it, with the view of removing the oil that may adhere to it. He may, if the taste be very disagreeable to him, chew a little cinnamon or cloves. If this dose should excite head-ache, or much irritation in the stomach, the dose should afterwards be decreased; and if it should excite nausea on taking it fasting, it may be administered an hour or two after breakfast. The pain on making water, which sometimes follows the use of this

remedy, may be prevented or removed, by taking the almond emulsion, with camphor, and a small proportion of the nitrate of potass. By proceeding in this treatment, the patient, on the expiration of ten or twelve days, should have taken from two to three ounces of the oil. The Doctor then recommends the patient to take the mild aperient powder, (noticed above,) and after its operation, to have recourse again to the use of the oil. He has in general found four ounces of the oil, taken as above directed, to succeed; but in some cases, that had resisted the ordinary remedies, he has found it necessary to continue its use, till the patient had taken seven ounces. He recommends the treatment in all cases to be continued after the expulsion of the worm, some time longer, with a view of destroying the predisposition of the system to the production of the animal, or the vitality of an ovum it may have left behind.

A much more speedy remedy for the destruction of the tape worm, is the white petroleum, or the spirit of turpentine; the third dose of which generally succeeds in effecting its expulsion. The white petroleum, or naptha, is more efficacious than the spirit of turpentine, and, at the same time, less stimulating to the stomach, and more pleasant to the palate.

The Worms of the Teeth, which some empirics pretend to destroy, by their mode of curing tooth-ache, Dr. Bremser has ascertained to be the seeds of henbane, which they employ to fumigate the diseased tooth, which they artfully exhibit, after the operation, to induce the patient to place confidence in their mode of treatment. This practice we have noticed in an early number.

RHEUMATISM, &c.—Dr. Balfour, of Edinburgh, has published fourteen cases, to illustrate the efficacy of compression and percussion, in the cure of rheumatism, debility of the extremities, &c. The first is a case of rheumatism affecting the right side of a woman aged twenty-six years. It had been so severe as to confine her to the bed two months before the Doctor was consulted. Dr. Poole, of Edinburgh, had attended her regularly for six weeks, during which time he had gone through the common routine of practice, without producing any beneficial effect, except a slight improvement of her appetite.

"The patient," the Doctor states, "was compelled to lie night and day upon her back, with the limb extended and equably supported on the bed. In no other position could she suffer it for a moment, without the most *exquisite* pain; every attempt to move it occasioned the most frightful screams. It is impossible, indeed, to conceive a human being in a more distressed and helpless condition than was this woman. There was no external appearance of disease in the limb, but the very idea of any thing touching it was intolerable to the patient. Notwithstanding, I was convinced, from ample experience, that nothing but compression and percussion could be of avail. I proceeded, therefore, under the regulation of the patient's feelings, to apply the former, first with my hands, and afterwards with a bandage. I beg leave here to state that, as friction was totally inadmissible in this case, so my practice, in the cure of rheumatism and complaints allied to it, is quite different, not only

in principle, but in the mode of application, from that of Mr. Grosvenor of Oxford. I have, moreover, had patients who had been previously under his care, and who say the same thing.

"At first, I proceeded with so much caution and delicacy, that three-quarters of an hour were required to go through the operation every day. For the first eight or ten days little progress seemed to be made. An evident amendment, however, was now observable. The parts could be handled with much more freedom. I now applied percussion to the sole of the foot, in order to give a tremulous motion to the whole of the limb. This accelerated the cure greatly. At the end of a fortnight I began to lift the limb from the bed, and to bend and extend it alternately. Formerly, when the limb was in any degree elevated, the whole limb was seized with tremor, attended with agonizing pain: I instantly checked these tremors, by drawing a bandage very tight round the ancle. This may appear extraordinary, but it is not the less true. Tremor of the inferior extremities can be checked at any time, by grasping firmly the tendon of the heel. The cure now went on rapidly; and, within a month from the time I was called in, the patient was on her legs."

Dr. Poole, notwithstanding the illiberal attack made on Dr. Balfour's practice, by some of the medical *gentlemen* of Edinburgh, by terming it empiricism, continued to visit the patient; and on the recovery of the patient, like a man of science, addressed a letter to Dr. Balfour, in which he observes, in speaking of the very favourable result of this treatment, "It was, to my unqualified conviction, justly attributable to the *scientific*, *safe*, and *most obviously efficacious* operation, which happily superseded my practice."

The second case is rheumatism of the arms, of a few months standing. The patient was captain of a passage smack: he had lost forty-five cups of blood within three months, and was, at the time the Doctor saw him, so weak, as to be almost incapable of walking. "He could," says the Doctor, "neither put on or take off a *stitch* of his own clothes." The Doctor commenced his system of percussion and compression, and in a short time he experienced such relief, as to be capable of dressing himself without assistance. The following day, the captain took his steward with him to the Doctor, to receive instructions to apply the remedies, in consequence of having resolved to accompany his vessel to London the subsequent day. When the Doctor accidentally met the captain, about two years afterwards, he told him, that he had followed his directions, and that the pain and rigidity of his back, shoulders, and arms, were speedily removed by it.

The following case of palsy, in a young lady, "of fine form and stature," in the Doctor's opinion, we give in his own words.

"The disease consisted in a partial loss of sensation and power in the left inferior extremity, from the middle and back part of the thigh downwards. The patient could walk, but without confidence. In throwing her weight on the limb, she was always afraid of coming down; and her foot could not grasp the ground. There was no pain in the limb, unless a prickly sensation, to the extent of about a hand-breath in the thigh where the disease commenced, might be

called pain. This prickly sensation was excited by firmly grasping the part.

"I told my patient that percussion was the only remedy from which I could expect any benefit in her case; and that it must be applied daily, and continued till a cure should be obtained. She assented, delighted with the prospect of being cured by any means. I proceeded to the operation; and the first application diffused the nervous power through the whole limb. A mixed sensation of pleasure and pain darted through it to the very point of the great toe. From that moment I entertained not a doubt that I would be able to effect a cure; but I warned my patient to expect that it would be very gradually accomplished. I continued my attendance every day for a short time, applying percussion over the whole limb and sole of the foot. This I did on the principle I have often mentioned, that, wherever a stimulus is applied, to that place there is an afflux of blood and nervous energy. If this principle is admitted, and it is self-evident, the objection raised by some writers to the application of percussion in cases of lameness and debility of the extremities from gout, must fall to the ground. Percussion must be admitted to be stimulant, and therefore cannot be repellent. No application can attract and repel at the same time. Those, therefore, who attempt to frighten gouty patients from the use of percussion, as calculated to repel the disease to internal parts, have other objects in view than truth or the welfare of their patients. Such writers merely cavil,—they do not reason; and, instead of instructing, only betray their own ignorance.

"In the course of ten days, an improvement was perceptible in my patient's walk. She trusted her weight with more confidence on the limb, and planted her foot with greater firmness. And, having by this time learned to apply the remedy equally well as myself, I left her, in the conviction of ultimately recovering the full power of her limb.

"A short time after I left off visiting her, she returned to the country, and I neither saw her nor heard of her for about twelve months. Standing in the middle of the street one day, in conversation with *other* two gentlemen, I observed a young lady crossing from the pavement towards us, with a *firm* and *equal* pace, smiling as she approached, and holding out her hand to me. I gave her my hand, but did not recognize her till she spoke. As her whole manner indicated happiness, I was not afraid to say, 'And how are you?' 'Perfectly well,' she replied with emphasis. 'Did you continue the operation of percussion?' 'Every day since I saw you; and I have used no other remedy whatever.'"

This patient had, for some time, delayed consulting Dr. Balfour, in consequence of having been prejudiced against his mode of treatment, by the surgeon-apothecary of the family with whom she was on a visit. His draughts and embrocations having failed to afford any relief, she determined to place herself under the Doctor's care.

Mr. Simpson, surgeon to the 56th regiment, gave Dr. Balfour's treatment an extensive trial at Malta, the beneficial results of which,

he says, astonished his professional brethren there. This gentleman found it very successful in cases of sprains. The opposition and illiberal conduct Doctor Balfour has experienced from some of his brethren, have had the effect of exciting him to more vigorous exertions. A correspondent informs us, that he sometimes nearly exhausts himself in percussing and pommelling his patients; and that he performs the processes with the agility and dexterity of a young man. In some hospitals, the rheumatic patients are directed to pommel each other for some hours together, to the great amusement of the lookers on.

STRANGULATED RUPTURE.—Dr. Sherwin, during a short stay at Enfield, in the course of last summer, by the request of Mr. Jessop, visited an old man on the second day of strangulated rupture in the groin, which Mr. Jessop had not been able to reduce. His skin was hot, face flushed, and the pulse far from being feeble. The doctor ordered Mr. Jessop to bleed him, and to administer the usual tobacco clyster, and a dose of calomel. The patient was then placed with his head and shoulders resting on a mattrass upon the floor, with his legs and thighs upon the bed, as high as the furniture would permit; and in this position, napkins wetted with a refrigerating solution (nitre powder, sprinkled between a folded napkin, wetted with cold water, is probably the best), were ordered to be continued, and repeatedly changed during five or six hours. On the expiration of that time, Mr. Jessop was directed to attempt a reduction; when he had the pleasure to find the contents of the tumor (about the size of a large fist), slip up on slight pressure. The symptoms of fever continuing to run high, the doctor ordered a repetition of bleeding in the course of the night, and from that time his convalescence advanced rapidly. "In respect to this continued position," observes the experienced Doctor, "it must be evident, that if the finger and thumb could be applied, within the abdomen, to that portion of the intestine, contiguous to the internal ring, the slightest effort would immediately retract a contiguous portion, which the rudest, the roughest, and, let me add, even the most judicious *external* pressure, with every advantage of scientific relaxation of muscles and ligaments, would in vain attempt; but what is denied to the finger and thumb, is, perhaps, afforded by due attention to this position." An intelligent medical friend of the doctor's, after reading this remark, observed to him:—

"'I should not be surprised, if hereafter, some enterprising surgeon, of plain good sense (the best of all sense), should adopt your hint; and, by making an opening into the cavity of the abdomen, apply his finger and thumb, in the manner you mention, and, with facility, effect the reduction.' May it not be added, will the patient, by such an operation, undergo as much pain,—will he have as large a surface exposed,—or will the internal cavity of the abdomen be more subjected to the danger of inflammation, from the admission of external air, than in the usual operation?—Will there be as much danger of wounding, either the epigastric artery, or the spermatic vessels? If none of these dangers will be augmented, but all of them lessened, why should he hesitate to adopt the hint? The

practical operating surgeon may probably advance unanswerable objections: none occur at present to the writer,—old adhesions excepted."

The following practice of reducing strangulated rupture, in Russia, is mentioned by Mr. Hiltebrand:—

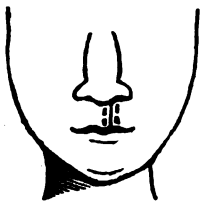
"'A pot, capable of holding several pints, is applied in the manner of a cupping-glass to the abdomen, previously rubbed with oil or soap. The parietes and bowels are thus drawn (with pain) into the pot, and the parts contained in the rupture into the abdomen.' He asserts that many, under very desperate appearances, have been thus cured. He might have added, that it was the dictate of plain good sense. The cupping may, with the least inconvenience, be performed, by dropping a piece of silver paper, wetted with rectified spirit, and lighted, into a large bell-tumbler, or any other vessel properly capacious."

The following case of strangulated rupture in the groin, which occurred lately in the neighbourhood of London, shews the necessity of a ruptured person paying attention to the state of the bowels, and of preventing the escape of a portion of the intestines, &c. into the sack, by the use of a proper truss. A lady having neglected to apply the truss, after being costive three days, was not able to effect its reduction. The aperient medicine she had been in the habit of taking, not having operated, and experiencing considerable pain in the bowels, she requested the attendance of an apothecary. On his two first visits, she did not acquaint him with her having a rupture, complaining only of obstinate costiveness. Active purgatives, and aperient clysters, having failed to produce an evacuation of fæces, and her pains increasing with accession of fever, she thought proper to acquaint the apothecary with the cause of her sufferings. On examining the tumor, he found it in such an alarming state, that he immediately urged a consultation. A servant was accordingly sent to the experienced, scientific, and gentle Mr. Vincent, to request his immediate attendance. This gentleman, after examining the tumor, recommended the operation as the only means of giving the patient a chance of recovery. This was accordingly performed, but the circulation of the contents had been so long stopped, that mortification had taken place. The patient was greatly relieved by the operation, and the intestines were afterwards sufficiently emptied. She, however, survived it only three days. The portion of the intestines, within the tumor, was distended by very hard fæces. The best instrument that has been invented for keeping up the bowels, is Mr. Ody's patent truss; and the most efficacious medicine for obviating costiveness, is the Bengal aperient pills, noticed in a former number.

Rupture in the groin might, in our opinion, be effectually cured, by producing adhesion of the integuments over the abdominal ring. This may be safely done, by removing the cellular substance between it and the skin; for which purpose, a very small opening would be sufficient.

HARE LIP.—Having found the usual method of operating for this natural defect to fail in infants, from the pins becoming loose

in three days, in consequence of the sloughing of the skin which covers them; from the pressure of the ligatures completely stopping the circulation, we were induced a few weeks ago to perform the operation on a young woman, at Hounslow, without pins. After removing the edges of the fissure on each side, by means of a scalpel, we passed a ligature through the left portion, about one-eighth of an inch from the edge near the bottom, and brought it out on the opposite side, about the same distance from the edge; and then, by securing at the end of the ligature, a short thin piece of whalebone, surrounded with lint, brought the edges in contact, and kept them in that state, by fixing to the other end, close to the puncture, the same contrivance. Another ligature in the same manner was applied between it and the nose. It then had the following appearance.



The wound was then covered with lint, and over it strips of adhesive plaster were applied. In the course of six days the ligatures were removed, and, in three days afterwards, the part had completely healed. The cicatrix is considerably less than that which follows the use of pins; indeed, it is now scarcely visible, even on close inspection. This method of operating for infants, is, in our opinion, very superior to that by pins, inasmuch as the edges of the fissure cannot be separated by crying, or by the infant's hands.

GOUT CORDIAL.—Sirs,—The following is a copy of the gout stomachic cordial, of which I spoke to you when I was in town last June. I have given the receipt to several noblemen, who are occasionally subject to gout and spasms in the stomach, who have informed me, that they have found it a most valuable remedy. It is also an excellent medicine for flatulence and indigestion of elderly people of debilitated or leucophlegmatic habits:

Take of the lesser cardamom seeds, husked and bruised—
Caraway Seeds bruised, of each two ounces;
The best Hay Saffron, half an ounce;
Turkey Rhubarb, thinly sliced, one oz. and half;
Gentian root, do. three-quarters of an oz.

Mix, and infuse in a wine quart bottle of *white* brandy for a fortnight. I put it within the heat of the fire for an hour or two the first four days, so as to warm the bottle, and shake it for about two minutes every day. The person who gave me the receipt, desired me to pour off the clear liquor, after it had stood a fortnight, but this I have not done. I keep the liquor on the ingredients, and pour it off clear when I want it. The dose is a table-spoonful, with an equal quantity of water: I generally take it about every third day. It keeps up digestion, and a regular state of the bowels. I have remained

free from spasms of the stomach and bowels, and in a great degree from flatulence, since I have been in the habit of taking it. I, however, take four grains of the blue pill every other night for a week, about once a month, agreeably to your directions.

With many thanks for the valuable information I have derived from your very useful publication, I beg to subscribe myself, Sirs,

Dec. 27, 1820. Your much obliged well wisher,

A SUFFOLK BARONET.

RHEUMATISM.—SIRS,—In the 60th No. of your valuable work, you recommend the cajeput liniment to remove local attacks of Rheumatism, after correcting the habit by the wine of the colchicum seeds. I have certainly not used that remedy, but have applied an unguent for the same purpose with great success. I am encouraged to send you a copy of the receipt for making it. In order to recommend it to the attention of your readers subject to rheumatism in the joints, I beg to state, that I received the prescription from a very eminent physician during a short residence at Edinburgh. It is as follows:

Take of Crystals of Tartarized Antimony, finely powdered, thirty grains;
Rectified Oil of Turpentine, three drachms;
Fresh Hog's Lard, one ounce;—Mix well together.

The skin over the part affected should be well rubbed with this ointment every night till eruptions appear, when the part may be dressed with spermaceti cerate. When the irritation in some degree subsides, the unguent may be again used, and continued at intervals, so as to keep up an inflammatory action in the skin till the rheumatic pain ceases, and the swelling has subsided, which it in general effects in the course of a week. The wine of the colchicum seeds should be previously taken for three or four days, with the view of rendering the rheumatic affection local, or, as you say, to remove the state of system which favours the disease. I am, Sirs,

Dec. 27, 1820. Your constant reader and friend,

J. RAIKES.

BUCHU LEAVES.—*(Diosma Crenata L.)*—A scientific gentleman residing at the Cape of Good Hope, has sent us a considerable quantity of these leaves, that the faculty may give them a trial in those diseases for which the natives represent them to be a certain specific. An infusion of them made by steeping an ounce in a pint of boiling water, for four hours, taken in the dose of three tablespoonsful two or three times a day, he says, is an effectual remedy for gleet, mucous discharges from the bladder, fluor albus, rheumatism, and gravel. The leaves, moistened with boiling water, and applied whilst warm, by means of a napkin, in the manner of a poultice, to a paralytic limb, or a part affected with rheumatism, he has known to succeed in many bad cases of long standing. As he wishes the leaves to have a fair trial in this country, a quantity of them is deposited at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly, with directions for supplying the faculty with them at a very low price. The leaves are slightly astringent, and contain an essential oil, very similar in flavour to a mixture of the oil of turpentine and rue. They resemble in appearance the uva ursi.

NEW NAMES.—GENTLEMEN,—The names of chemical articles have been so frequently altered by the chemists of France, Germany, and England, in consequence of discoveries, real and pretended, and new theories, that it is now much to be lamented, that the nomenclature was ever introduced into the practice of medicine. Chemistry has advanced with such rapid strides, that, in order to keep up with the nomenclature, the new discoveries, in some degree, render necessary, in *chemical* science, your College of Physicians should publish a pharmacopœia every six months. Having been advised by a Parisian physician to give my daughter a few grains of "chloride of mercury," I sent to Messrs. Godfrey and Cook, of Southampton-street, for a drachm of it. The article my servant obtained there, I found, on examination, to be the oxymuriate of mercury, vulgarly termed corrosive sublimate. Now, sirs, had I not have been acquainted with the article, I should, no doubt, have given my daughter two or three grains of it, the effects of which would have destroyed her life in a few hours! I afterwards sent to Mr. Accum for the "chloride of Mercury," who sent me a solution of corrosive mercury. I then sent to Apothecaries' Hall, where my servant was told that they did not keep it. I sent also to Paytherus and Co. in Bond-street, where my servant received the same answer. From the Medical Hall, in Piccadilly, I received, under the same name, viz. "chloride of mercury," the *submuriate of mercury*, (calomel,) which, I now find, is the article my friend wished me to give to my daughter. On referring to Dr. Paris's Pharmacologia, and Mr. Jennings's Family Cyclopædia, I find that chloride of mercury is the last new name for *calomel*.

The College of Physicians, I find, are engaged in correcting their Pharmacopœia. This I certainly consider necessary for the *chemical* character of that body; but I hope that they will not think of altering the names of the chemical articles according to the last French nomenclature on chemical theories. With the practice of medicine they have, in my humble opinion, nothing to do; indeed I cannot help thinking that the name of a drug, by which it is the best known, is the most proper one to adopt. For the "prepared burnt hartshorn," my servant received at the shops of Messrs. Godfrey and Co., and of Messrs. Paytherus and Co., the *carbonate of lime*. The practice of selling prepared chalk for all the testaceous powders, is, I find, very common in this country. I was told by one man, who styles himself a chemist, that chalk and prepared burnt hartshorn do not *chemically* differ. Now they so far differ, that in some affections of the stomach and bowels, in which the prepared calcined hartshorn uniformly proves very beneficial, the prepared chalk proves as highly injurious. From the carbonate of lime, or prepared chalk, on meeting with an acid in the stomach, a considerable disengagement of the carbonic acid gas takes place, which, in cases of organic disease of the pylorus and intestines, attended with diarrhœa, I have found to produce the most distressing spasms and acute pain, whilst, in the same case, the prepared burnt hartshorn always checked the diarrhœa, and quieted the stomach. From the latter, the very small quantity of carbonic acid gas which escapes, is, on meeting with an acid, more beneficial than otherwise. In the diarrhœa, or the acid purging

of children, it is also of very great consequence to employ the true burnt hartshorn. I therefore, through the medium of your very useful publication, beg leave to recommend Messrs. Godfrey and Co. and Messrs. Paytherus and Co. to employ in their shops young men who are well acquainted with chemistry, and not allow them to exercise their opinions as to the *chemical* qualities of articles of which they are ignorant. From Apothecaries' Hall I obtained some extract of rhatany root, at a most exorbitantly high price, which possessed very little more virtue than rotten wood powder, formed into a paste with mucilage of gum arabic!! I advise that Company to keep the *foreign* extract of the root; for from the dried root neither they nor any chemist can make an extract that contains its *medicinal* virtues. At Messrs. Godfrey and Co.'s my servant, on complaining of the high price at which they charged the extract of rhatany, was told that he could not get it at any other shop, and of course must pay the price demanded!! The extract was too soft, and had a fœtid flavour. Since you noticed the extract in your Gazette of Health, I have procured it at the Medical Hall, in Piccadilly, not only at a much cheaper rate, but of better quality. For your next number I purpose sending you some further information as to the Southampton Street Druggists, who so pompously style themselves *Chemists.* I send you this communication, because I am told, by my friend Ure, that of all the journals published in this country, you are the only editors, who dare to insert it. I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

Jan. 22, 1821. J. JANNIER.

THE FAMILY CYCLOPŒDIA.—We have received the first six numbers of a work now publishing monthly, at the price of 2s. 6d. each number, by Messrs. Sherwood and Co. under the title of "The Family Cyclopœdia." It is edited by Mr. J. Jennings, a very scientific chemist, and a gentleman of general philosophical information. We find it to be a valuable manual of useful and necessary knowledge. It is alphabetically arranged, comprising all the recent inventions, discoveries, and improvements in domestic economy, agriculture, and chemistry; the usual methods of curing diseases; observations on diet and regimen; a comprehensive account of the most interesting objects of natural history, animate and inanimate; a clear explanation of the various arts and manufactures; and a view of the human mind and the passions, with their particular application to the modern improvement in education and morals. It is to be completed in ten numbers. We have perused most of the scientific articles with much pleasure; they are pithy and modern. It is very superior to the "Domestic Encyclopœdia," edited by the late Dr. Willich.

DEAFNESS, &c.—The *Narrateur de la Meuse* contains the following article on the cure of two deaf and dumb persons, who recovered their hearing and speech. "This novel and successful operation was performed by M. Deleau, a young practitioner, a doctor of medicine, of the faculty of Paris, ex-surgeon to the 4th regiment of cuirassiers, and now established at Meuse. The two deaf and dumb who underwent the operations (whereby he perforated with dexterity and success the membrane of the tympany), are Mademoiselle Bivier de St. Mibiel, aged sixteen years, and the Sieur Toussaint, son of the assistant magistrate of Hans-sur-Meuse, aged twenty-eight years.

"The young girl is doing extremely well. It is more than a month since she underwent the operation. Her left ear is perfectly healed, and the opening made to the tympanum always continues, which is absolutely necessary. She takes notice of the least sounds, and begins to articulate words in a very satisfactory manner. Her vivacity has increased, and her figure changes for the better. She is incessantly humming various airs which her sisters teach her.

"The young man of Hans-sur-Meuse, who was operated upon a short time since, hears as well as his comrades, and even more lively. His right ear is finer than his left; he makes constant efforts to pronounce all sorts of words. The surgeon, from whom we have the particulars, hopes that in three or four months the two subjects will speak perfectly. It is evident that they must be instructed like children, who begin to make the first efforts to articulate.

"M. Deleau informs us, that he is constructing an instrument, which will afford the happy facility of finishing the operation in three minutes, by which its success will be rendered more certain. By means of this instrument he will raise on the tympanic membrane enough of substance to prevent the necessity of introducing probes into the perforation during from thirty to forty days. He is of opinion, that he can restore the hearing of all those who have been deprived of it by an obstruction of the Eustachian tube, and by the *obesity* of the membrane of the tympany." The operation of puncturing the membrana tympani in case of obstruction of the eustachian tube, is very old. It was revived about twenty years ago by Mr. A. Cooper, who performed it several times with success; but in consequence of the puncture closing in a short time, the operation has very undeservedly fallen into disrepute. If M. Deleau's mode of operating will prevent the aperture from closing, he will have some claim to a *novel* as well as very important discovery.

INTOXICATION.—Dr. Petier, a German physician, informs us, that he has found the spirit of hartshorn (in the dose of a small teaspoonful in a glass of water) to counteract the inebriating effects of strong fermented liquors and spirits, and to recover a person from an apparently lifeless state from an excess of wine, in an hour or two. A French physician recommends twenty-five grains of the carbonate of potass to be added to the above draught, which he says renders it more efficacious by neutralizing acidity in the stomach. This gentleman condemns the practice of administering a tonic medicine the day after a fit of intoxication, with the view of invigorating the stomach. This organ being in a state of increased excitement, an opposite treatment should be adopted. The remedy he has found most beneficial is the saline draught in a state of effervescence, which he recommends to be taken every three hours for about two days.

BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS.—A formidable opponent to *Dr.* Faithorne and *Dr.* James Johnson has started in Cheltenham. This gentleman, a Doctor John Thomas, in consequence of having been "many years resident physician at Thoulouse in France, has been enabled to improve the English practice by combining with it some useful methods of cure employed on the Continent." The learned Doctor is of opinion that "no man should, in the present en-

lightened state of medicine (as produced by the combination of French and English practice, we suppose), publish any observations that are not his own, particularly in the history and treatment of *chronic* diseases (to which *he* has paid particular attention); no compilations, still less collections of observations written by different authors, and united together by *one* man who has not seen the patients, should ever be permitted." This is certainly a very severe indirect attack on the luminous works of *Dr.* Faithorne, *Dr.* James Johnson, and *Dr.* Solomon. On the part of these *successful* writers, we beg to ask Dr. Thomas if their quotations (not plagiarisms) are not proofs of their having been great readers, and of being "*groundedly* learned?"

Dr. Thomas is a great admirer of the Hamiltonian system, which he thinks does not differ from that of Mr. Abernethy. Dr. Hamilton and Mr. Abernethy have, in his opinion, treated on bilious complaints, &c. in a very superior manner; "indeed," says he, "in such a manner, that nothing but the *hope* of being able to *glean* a few *scattered* ideas, not taken up, overlooked, or perhaps not thought of by those two able physiologists, could have *tempted* him to explore a ground already so well known!!!" The Dr. proceeds, "*I* have *also* had many years extensive practice, a great part of which in a southern climate, and having *mostly* taken notes of such cases as came under my care, *I* have selected a few of them with an intention to publish." Like the learned Dr. James Johnson, the Doctor talks much of "*functional* disorders of the digestive or chylopoietic organs," but has neglected to notice the "lesion of functions."

Dr. Thomas has however been able to add to the blue pill system, clysters and warm bath. Now if the Doctor were to combine with his *improved* Hamiltonian and Abernethian systems, the spinal marrow system of Dr. Solomon, what an irresistibly attractive system he would make! We have not been able to discover any similarity between the practice of Dr. Hamilton and that of Mr. Abernethy. The indiscriminate use of purgatives, which Dr. Hamilton in some degree sanctions, has been productive of very serious mischief. Many a patient with diseased intestines, and others of leucophlegmatic habits, have been certainly by it hastened to their graves. The employment of such a system, under all circumstances, is dangerous empiricism. Now, as to Mr. Abernethy's system, it is capable of doing a great deal of good; nay, of curing very formidable organic diseases, and at the same time is incapable of doing harm. The founder of it recommends an aperient medicine only to obviate costiveness, and not to purge. The Abernethian system is in fact a beautiful one for inexperienced practitioners, whilst that of Dr. Hamilton is a dangerous one.

Doctor Thomas being a convert to the opinions of Dr. Hamilton, very politicly settled in a place, whose purgative springs enable him to carry it into effect. The mineral waters of Cheltenham he declares to be inexhaustible. He condemns a prevalent practice of adding a strong solution of Glauber's, or any other neutral salt, to render them more active. The Cheltenham waters, says the Doctor, "want no addition of salts, nor of concentrated waters to render them more active; they are *naturally* more impregnated than most of the celebrated saline waters in Europe. Besides, it is the *unanimous* opinion of the *most*

learned physicians, and the *most celebrated chemists* of the *present* day, that *natural* mineral waters owe much of their efficacy to the *extreme* diluted state in which they hold their component parts in solution." The Doctor adds, "even sea water is rendered more aperient by an addition of common water!!" During a short stay at Cheltenham, we found it necessary to make an addition of the concentrated water to the natural water, to render it aperient, and we found half a pint of the water with it to produce an effect which three pints of the natural water failed to do; and we know that many professional men have found it necessary to do the same, in order to avoid the most unpleasant sense of oppression of the stomach and head-ache, which uniformly followed copious libations of the natural water. When calomel has been taken the preceding night, a common practice at Cheltenham, the natural water may be sufficient; and also when the bowels are tender or irritable.

"The Peruvian bark, opium, and many others of the *most powerful* remedies," the Doctor states, "may be *neutral*, even more simple than mineral waters. The *better*," says he, "a remedy is, when *judiciously* PRESCRIBED, the more *dangerous* it becomes when *injudiciously* ADMINISTERED." Therefore a patient, on arriving at this "asylum for Invalids," should place himself under the guidance of a "*judicious prescriber!*" One improvement in English formulæ by French medicine is the addition of lean veal. On the commencement of his practice in Toulouse among the natives, "the French apothecary," he says, "*Frenchified* the remedy by adding to the decoction of dandelion and hedge hyssop, which he had prescribed, two ounces of veal, deprived of fat. As there is a predilection in France for medicated broths, I did not object to this addition. The patient *also* liked the idea of taking broth rather than medicine. When I *can* do so *I* always yield to the wish of the sick in the form of the medicine." This is indeed being very considerate; but, good Dr. Thomas, would not the decoction of *calf's head*, so much extolled by some French physicians, prove more beneficial than the broth of lean veal, which yields little or no gluten?

The Doctor, during his residence in France, attended a case of palsy of the right side of the body. He "saw him the day of the attack. His tongue was so much paralyzed that it was with great difficulty he could articulate so as to be understood, and *his mouth was* DRAWN *aside!!*"

It is the relaxation of the muscles of the paralyzed side of the face, that gives the mouth on the opposite side the appearance of being "drawn aside." The idea of paralyzed muscles *drawing* a part aside betrays an ignorance of the nature of palsy. In this patient, the observant Doctor "recognised considerable *functional* disturbance." He ordered, *à la mode Français*, a clyster of warm water and salt, to be repeated *every half* hour till a dejection was produced. "His feet and legs, as high as his knees, to be put into a warm bath with *mustard in it*," and "while *this was* doing," says he, "I sent a person to town to *fetch* a dozen leeches, ten of which were to be applied to the anus as soon as the clyster had produced the desired effect." He also "ordered a dose of gentle opening medicine of senna and Glauber salts to be taken the *next* morning!!" The practice of applying leeches to the anus in affections in the head and chest is very common in France. Many of the physicians,

advocates for calf's head broth, contend that the loss of two or three ounces of blood from this part, affords more relief than five times the quantity from a vein in the arm. The relief which generally follows the occurrence of the piles, in cases of giddiness or head ache, from plethora and inflammatory affection of the lungs, gave rise to this practice. Dr. Thomas contends, that by applying leeches to the anus, "artificial piles are created; it is disgorging," says he "those *congregated conduits;* it is really making medicine the handmaid of nature!!" The Doctor must have a very curious idea of the nature of piles. If the "congregated conduits" are not over-distended, they are rather in an opposite state, in consequence of a preternatural determination of blood to the head, how then can the leeches "*disgorge*" them?

In affections of the head, the irritation attendant on piles proves more beneficial than the loss of blood; indeed, to it alone, unless some hæmorrhage ensues, the benefit is solely attributable. The loss of blood from the vessels of the anus cannot unload the sanguiferous system, or the vessels of the head or chest, more than from the arm. During a short stay at Paris, we saw the bodies of three young men who died of inflammation of the lungs, for the recovery of whom, we were told *every thing* had been done that the art of medicine could accomplish. On inquiry what that "*every thing*" was, we were told that ten leeches had been applied to the anus, and the most *purifying* tisans had been freely administered!!

From Doctor Thomas's plan of "combining the English with the French practice," we suspect no benefit will arise to his patients. The plan, however, affords what advertisers term "a *taking* advertisement," and as such may answer his purpose for a season or two, at this "celebrated asylum for invalids," which he represents Cheltenham to be.

REPORT OF DISEASES.—In consequence of the sudden great variations in the temperature, &c. of the atmosphere within the last six weeks, acute rheumatism, inflammatory affections of the head, chest, and abdomen, gout, apoplexy, and asthma, have been very prevalent in the metropolis and throughout the country. In cases of acute rheumatism and gout, the simple and the alcalescent wine of the colchicum seeds have been administered with uncommon success, in some instances of both, restoring the patients to perfect health in the course of a few days, who from the severity of the attacks expected to be confined to their beds as many weeks. In cases of asthma and chronic gout and rheumatism, the ammoniated tincture of the seeds, in the dose of a spoonful in a glass of water twice a day, has afforded immediate relief, and in a few days removed almost every symptom. In inflammation of the lungs, pleurisy, and incipient consumption, the oxymel of the colchicum seeds has proved a very powerful auxiliary to bleeding and blistering. Laudanum, or an aperient medicine, is not necessary during the use of this remedy. It powerfully allays cough, checks the velocity of the circulation, and quiets the nervous system. It also operates gently and pleasantly on the bowels.

It is in the early stage of pulmonary consumption, that this oxymel proves beneficial. When ulceration has taken place in the substance of the lungs to much extent, evinced by great emaciation, copious expectoration, considerable prostration of strength, colliquative diarrhœa,

&c. this oxymel, by reducing the powers of the system, hastens its fatal termination. In inflammation of the intestines, calomel and opium, as recommended by Dr. Peart, with copious bleeding, have been generally successful. For hooping cough, which has also been very prevalent and violent, the oxymel of colchicum seeds, and also the alcalescent wine, have produced the happiest effects. In a few cases of croup, abstraction of blood from a vein in the arm or temporal artery, till the patient fainted, with the use of a solution of tartarized antimony, calomel, and blisters to the *extremities*, have speedily effected a cure. The tincture of Iodine is likely to have a fair trial in scrofula. In dropsical affections, particularly of the chest, the daily inhalation of oxygen, with the muriated tincture of iron, foxglove, squill, and calomel, has proved very beneficial. In cases of partial palsy and debility of the nerves within the abdomen, galvanism and electricity have been employed with the most decided advantage. Of the effects of the liquid resin of spruce, termed balsam of spruce, in cases of gleet and fluor albus, we have received several very favorable reports.

JARVIS *v.* SLOPER *(continued from p. 776 of our last Number)*. When an attorney proceeds against a client for the recovery of his demand for attendance, &c. he is not required by law to produce evidence of his having had the conferences with his client for which he has made a charge; it is necessary only for him to prove that he was employed by the defendant. This privilege was granted to attorneys, in consequence of the conferences between them and their clients being generally on private business, and of course rarely in the presence of a third person, or a competent witness. Now if attorneys enjoy this privilege on account of the business of their clients being frequently of a *private* nature, how much more are surgeons entitled to it, who are so often consulted in cases of diseases, the nature of which they are bound by honour to keep secret? It is the common practice of surgeons, to supply their patients with lotions, pills, caustic, &c. in a private surgery, that their pupils or assistants should not know the nature of their complaints. Even when medicines are sent by a servant to the house of a patient, it is often impossible to prove the delivery of every article, after the expiration of twelve or eighteen months. Did the wary lawyer Sloper suppose that Mr. Jarvis could not prove the delivery of all the medicines he had taken, or that he would not in *his case* dare to put his daughters in the box to prove his having taken the *necessary* medicines?

The delay and enormous expence of legal proceedings to recover a debt, are very serious evils. To uphold the dignity of the profession, it was the duty of Mr. Jarvis to refer his charges to an impartial jury, and this he did at the risk of an expence of upwards of one hundred pounds; for if he had failed to make out his case satisfactorily, or had been nonsuited through an error in the proceedings, the costs on both sides, which he must have paid, would have amounted, on a moderate calculation, to that sum; and notwithstanding he *succeeded* in obtaining a verdict for the full amount of his demand, his extra costs will amount to fifteen or twenty pounds, so that with all his *success*, he will be from seven to twelve pounds out of pocket!!! The expence of the law has induced many a man to give up a just debt, or pay an unjust one, rather

than run so great a risk. Hence, the heavy charges operate in favour of villany. One would suppose that in this country the *life* of a man is of much less importance to the legislature than two pounds; for a man may be tried for a criminal act, and hung for a few shillings, and that too in a summary way; but to recover a debt of two pounds the plaintiff may be put off by sham pleadings for eighteen months, and after all has only to prove the hand-writing of the defendant, and that at an expence of fifty or one hundred pounds!!

BATEMAN'S PECTORAL DROPS.—These drops are "accurately prepared from the patent by Messrs. Butlers, and sold at their *original* Medicine Warehouse." The Proprietors state, "The King (his most gracious Majesty George the Second), upon a representation to him of the *rare* cures performed by *Doctor* Bateman's pectoral drops, on *many thousands* of his Majesty's *loving* subjects in several parts of Great Britain, to prevent counterfeits, and to secure the property to the noble inventor (the learned Doctor Bateman), was *graciously* pleased to grant his letters patent under the *great* seal of *Great* Britain." They add, by way of a N. B. "There have been many more uncommon and surprising cures performed by these drops, than by any *one* medicine since the discovery of the *art* of physic." To prevent *imposition*, they particularly request purchasers to observe that the bottle is "sealed with a boar's head and star, and the following words round the seal, The King's Patent *expired*."

This incomparable remedy is recommended as an infallible specific for "epidemical disorders of sudden colds, attended frequently with violent shiverings, faintings, head-achs, pains and swellings in the limbs or joints. Innumerable instances might be given of their happy effects and power, of which not one in a hundred can miss of an *immediate* cure in the cases above, as well as in all agues, fevers, fluxes, asthmas, coughs, colds, rheumatism, gout, stone, colic, gravel, &c.!!!" The compass of the wrapper of the bottle "not admitting of the testimonies and certificates of all the cures performed by these wonderful healing drops," the proprietors only insert a few. In 1742 they cured Mrs. Elizabeth James, of Wapping, of rheumatism; in 1744, Edward Parker, of Southwark, of "a violent cold, which *turned* to the rheumatism;" in 1740, John Williams, of Guildford, "who was afflicted with gout and rheumatism to that degree that he could not move hand or foot. He had been in *three* hospitals. The drops, *by the blessing of God*, cured him, and *at this time* he remains free from pain!!!" They also cured William Mallett, of the same place, and John Thomas, of York, who also remain at this time free from pain. Their mortal *remains* having long ago mingled with their mother earth, they are indeed free from pain. This "*invaluable* specific is made in the following manner. Take of fresh liquorice-root sliced, of aniseeds bruised, of each two ounces, of water five pints; to be boiled till the liquor is reduced to four pints, then strain it off, and dissolve one drachm of opium in a quart of the liquor whilst warm; then add one ounce of camphor previously dissolved in a quart of rectified spirit of wine, and then mix the whole together, and add of New England castor, of wild valerian root in fine powder, of each one drachm, of cochineal in powder half a drachm; shake the whole well together, and keep it in a bottle closely stopped." The directions are not strictly chemical, for no chemist would boil

aniseeds, the essential oil, on which their medicinal virtues depend, being thereby dissipated. The active ingredient of this composition is opium, which in chronic rheumatism and chronic cough may, in one case out of a hundred, afford temporary relief. In *acute* cases, as "fever, colds, and cough," it is capable of doing irreparable mischief, by disordering the head, constipating the bowels, and accelerating the circulation. In the humid asthma and constitutional cough this remedy, by checking expectoration, would prove very injurious. It is in fact a disguised solution of opium, which in the hands of ignorance is a very dangerous remedy.

HICKMAN'S DIURETIC PILLS.—"A celebrated remedy for the gravel and stone, *all* affections of the urinary organs, pains in the back and loins, lumbago, &c." The proprietors, in their dissertation on the properties of these pills, state, "That gravel and stone arise from no fault of the unhappy sufferer; for they are the consequences of a vitiated action of the organs, which form improper combinations from whatever he eats or drinks, and thus equally affect the most temperate, as well as those given to the greatest excess." The proprietors have therefore studied animal chemistry. The diuretic pills, they say, "strengthen the relaxed state of the secreting vessels, and combine *chemically* with the secreted fluid; thus both dissolving the gritty matter *already* formed, and preventing its future generation."—This theory of the modus operandi of the diuretic *pills*, does not accord with that of the causes of gravel; for if one article taken *into the stomach* is capable of correcting morbid action in the kidneys, surely another may be capable of producing it. Many practitioners, as eminent as the proprietors of the pills, have attributed gravel and stone in the bladder to a disordered state of the digestive organs, and the use of water containing calcareous matter. The diuretic pills of Dr. or Mr. Hickman, are composed of carbonate of soda, soap, rhubarb, and oil of juniper, which in most cases of simple gravel, may afford relief. For "*all* diseases of the kidneys, and pains in the loins," they cannot be proper; for instance, in an inflammatory affection of the kidneys, and in diabetes, they would prove very injurious, and in pains in the loins, as acute lumbago, or inflammation in the cellular substance, about the psoas muscles, they would also aggravate the sufferings of the patient; and if in the latter case the patient were to persist in their use till matter had formed, he would probably lose his life. We advise the proprietors therefore to recommend their pills only in those cases of gravel, which are clearly pointed out by a deposit from the urine.

VELNO'S VEGETABLE SYRUP.—Soon after this nostrum was puffed off as a specific for the syphilitic disease, Mr. Blair, a scientific surgeon of London, gave it a fair trial in a great variety of cases, at the Lock Hospital, but in no single instance did it ever succeed in checking the progress of the disease. It is really a most melancholy fact, that all the patients who have been admitted into the Lock Hospital of late years, in consequence of the advanced progress of the disease, particularly caries of bones, loss of palate, &c. attribute their wretched state to trusting to advertised remedies, and the false promises of quacks. That the College of Surgeons have allowed such impostors to carry on their traffic openly with impunity, is to us a matter of astonishment.—With this disease the College of Physicians say they have nothing to do, and with the practice of quacks they are evidently afraid to interfere.

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 63. To MARCH 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

SUPPRESSION OF URINE.—Mr. Wilkinson, a Member of the London College of Surgeons, has communicated to Dr. Uwins, a case of *periodical* Suppression of Urine, which was at one time apparently produced by an infusion of foreign tea, and at another by gin and smoking. The patient (a male, fifty years of age) had been subject to an attack of the disease about midnight for four years. The paroxysm came on with the common symptoms of indigestion. Under the direction of some of his medical friends, a bougie had been employed. Mr. Wilkinson was, however, of opinion, that the stricture of the urethra was spasmodic. He did not object to the employment of the mechanical remedy, agreeing with the other medical attendants, that it was as likely as any other topical means to alleviate the morbid excitement, and thereby remove the cause of the spasms. After the disease had existed two years, the paroxysms became very painful. The bougie uniformly afforded considerable relief. The topical remedy, with constitutional treatment, by antispasmodics, stomachics, diuretics, &c. failing to afford permanent advantage, Mr. W. was led to suspect that the tea the patient was in the habit of taking every evening was the cause of the malady. Mr. W. accordingly persuaded him to abandon this practice, and the following night he escaped an attack. The result not having satisfied the patient's mind that the tea was the cause of his sufferings, he took it again as usual, late in the evening, and the following night he experienced a recurrence of the complaint. This second experiment subdued his scepticism; he gave up tea, and remained free from the distressing malady for six months. Such however was his attachment to his old habit, that he then took to it again. About five hours after the first indulgence a suppression of urine ensued, for the removal of which Mr. W. was under the necessity of introducing a bougie. From this time, in consequence of leaving off tea, he remained free from an attack for about five months, when the disease returned; and for three months he was under the necessity of making use of the instrument every night. Internal remedies afforded no benefit, although he was much afflicted with indigestion, except the colchicum, which produced a powerful cathartic effect. After the use of this medicine the patient was often able to empty his bladder without the aid of the bougie for three nights, during which time he took cocoa for his evening repast. He then took to gin and water, and smoked tobacco. The disease recurring, Mr. W. prevailed on him to omit this practice for one night, the consequence of which was a non-recurrence of an attack. Having the idea that gin and smoking could have no effect on the disease, the patient had recourse again to gin and smoking, the following evening, and about midnight the suppression came on. The third night he took neither gin nor tobacco until after the usual period of attack, and in about three hours afterwards an attack occurred, which rendered the use of a bougie necessary.

This circumstance produced a thorough conviction upon the mind of the patient, that the disease was first brought on by the use of tea, and

latterly by gin and smoking, and having discontinued them, he now remains free from it. Mr. Wilkinson adds, that his patient is a man of sober habits, and that he was induced to take gin and smoke tobacco, under the supposition that the practice would prove beneficial, by relieving his stomach and composing his system.

As medical gentlemen, particularly physicians, in much practice, seldom take the trouble to make proper inquiry respecting the articles of diet or habits of their patients, we hope this case will induce our non-medical readers, when afflicted with disease, to ascertain how far any particular article of diet, or indulgence, may have been instrumental in producing the malady, in bringing it into action when predisposed to it, or in keeping it up. This we conceive, indeed, to be more the province of the patient than of the medical attendant. Any information derived from this source, cannot fail to throw much light on the nature, &c. of a malady to an intelligent practitioner.

PALSY OF THE LOWER EXTREMITIES.—To Mr. RICHARD WILLIAMS, an experienced scientific surgeon, of Aberystwyth, the profession and public are indebted for the following case of this very distressing disease.

History of the Case.—MARY MORGAN, when about eleven years of age, caught a severe cold, in consequence of falling asleep upon the ground, which was attended with considerable fever and delirium.

She was visited by an empiric in this neighbourhood, who bled her in each foot, and administered some medicines. Shortly afterwards she entirely lost the use of her limbs, and continued unable to move even her toes for upwards of eight years.

In the month of May last, when Mr. W. visited her, he found her general health was not much impaired by long confinement. She complained of great coldness in her lower extremities, which were somewhat emaciated. Her feet and ancles had become œdematous, and the sensation of feeling was very much diminished.

He could not discover any irregularity in the spine, although he suspected the cause of her complaint to exist in that part.

Treatment.—Upon the 1st of June, 1820, she was electrified for the first time, and sparks were passed through her legs for a quarter of an hour. Two setons were made in her loins, one upon each side of the spine. She was directed to go into a hot bath, temperature ninety-eight degrees Fahrenheit, at bedtime, three times a week, to wear long flannel drawers, and to rub her limbs night and morning with an embrocation, composed of the following liniment:

Take of Olive Oil, six drachms
Water of Ammonia, two do.
Spirit of Turpentine, four do. Mix.

When the electric spark had been continued daily for a week, the shock was substituted for it; and she was electrified regularly every day for ten weeks, with the exception of five days, from a coated jar capable of holding one pint. During this period she gradually got better; and the electricity was again repeated almost every day till the second week in September, and occasionally till the middle of November, when he did not think it necessary to employ it any longer.

On the 9th of September Mr. W. ordered her to bathe in the open sea, and she did so three times, feeling a glow upon her skin when she

came out of the water; but as the weather became cold and tempestuous, he desired her to return to the use of the hot bath.

The setons were kept open for three months, and then converted into issues, which have not yet been healed up.

On this case, Mr. WILLIAMS made the following observations: The effect of the electric fluid was to produce a sensation of warmth and increased action of the pulse; and as she regained the use of her limbs, the shock was more severely felt.

At the expiration of a fortnight she was able to move her feet, and in three weeks to raise them from the ground; in six weeks she could turn herself upon a chair; in about two months she could support herself in the erect posture; and in fourteen weeks she could stand alone upon the insulated stool, and bear to have shocks passed through different parts of her body in that situation.

For the first month the electric shock was confined to the hips, legs, and thighs, and applied in the course of the nerves. It was afterwards drawn through the spine in various directions, as well as through the nates, knees, and ancles, with manifest advantage. Her knees remained weak for a long time; and it was not until they had been frequently electrified that she was able to sustain her own weight, so as to walk about without any manner of assistance whatever: and I have now the satisfaction to add, that she is in every respect perfectly recovered.

RUPTURE.—A lecturer on surgery and anatomy, in London, whom we consider the most scientific surgeon in Europe, observes in a letter, dated the 19th of February, "in the brief announcement of your proposed operation, for the cure of the Inguinal Rupture, you have not said what you mean to do with the hernial sac." When we proposed to effect a cure by obliterating as it were the abdominal ring by adhesion, we of course meant to effect at the same time an obliteration of the sac. This may perhaps be more effectually accomplished in a few days, by a seton in the same manner as employed by POTT and others, for the radical cure of Hydrocele, or by removing that part, which may be termed the neck of the sac, with the cellular membrane. But if the incision be made across the bottom of the abdominal ring, so as to divide the sac, we conceive that an adhesion would take place at both ends. The lecturer adds, "I should not attempt such an operation, lest in some cases I should induce inflammation of the peritoneum, and in others fail from the propulsive force, which is great, overcoming the weak resistance made by adhesion." In reply to these objections, we shall only state, that we have certainly met with cases of rupture, which were evidently cured by adhesion, occasioned by the pressure of a truss, with a powerful spring; and if the inflammation, so excited, did not extend to the peritoneum within the abdomen, we can have no good reason for supposing, that the slight inflammation which may follow an incision, would advance upwards to a serious extent. Of our method of operating for the hare lip, he speaks in terms of approbation.

PILES.—Sirs,—The mode of treating piles by medicated injections, noticed in your 61st Number, as practised by Mr. Blacket, is by no means new. I have been in the habit of employing astringent, emollient, and anodyne injections for many years in cases of *local* pileswith the most decided advantage. This disease is very frequently attended with in-

flammation of the internal membrane of the lower end of the rectum and anus, and not unfrequently with excoriation or very superficial ulceration; and these occurrences, which take place without the distension of the hæmorrhoidal veins constituting piles, are often mistaken by the ignorant for piles. In such cases Mr. Blacket's injection, a solution of nitre, is productive of very acute pain, and never fails to increase inflammation. The injection I generally employ, is a weak solution of vitriolated zinc and copper, as the following:

Take of Vitriolated zinc, one drachm;
——— copper, six grains;
Pure water, eight ounces.

I inject about an ounce (lukewarm) by means of a four ounce lavement syringe with a *small* rectum pipe. In many cases I have found the external application of it to succeed. To allay itching about the seat of the disease or in the neighbourhood, whether arising from piles or any other cause, I have found this lotion to succeed after other cooling and alterative applications had failed. The decoction of oak bark, recommended in an early number of your valuable Journal, as a remedy for piles, I have also found to merit the high character you have given it. Indeed, in a case of long standing, the most distressing I ever met with or heard of, it effected a complete cure in the course of a few weeks. As piles are generally of a critical nature, astringent applications should never be employed till the disease is (as you have very properly observed in this and other cases) rendered local, either by an abstraction of blood, or a mild cooling purgative medicine. If the patient be subject to a determination of blood to the head, or predisposed to apoplexy, both these remedies will be necessary.

I am, Gentlemen, your constant reader and friend,
London, Jan. 23, 1821. J. B. THOMPSON.

CHILBLAINS.—Sirs,—With the view of promoting the benevolent object of your Journal, I have enclosed a copy of a receipt for an ointment which I have found very beneficial in the cure of Chilblains, both in the incipient or inflammatory stage, or when advanced to ulceration. When in the inflammatory state, the part should be well rubbed over with it by means of a warm hand, and afterwards kept covered with *soft* thin leather. When ulcerated, it should be applied on lint, sufficiently large to cover the surrounding inflammation.

I am, Sirs, with respect, your obedient servant,
February 6, 1821. J. A. L. Member of the College of Surgeons.

Ointment for Chilblains.

Take of Spermaceti ointment, six drachms;
Prepared calomel, two scruples;
Rectified oil of turpentine, one drachm. Mix.

BUCHU LEAVES.—A physician well acquainted with these leaves, informs us that the natives of the Cape highly esteem them as a remedy for a great variety of diseases, particularly rheumatism, gleet, and indigestion; and that he has found an infusion of them highly beneficial in cases of gleet, fluor albus, chronic diarrhœa, and the indigestion of gouty and rheumatic subjects. He states, that the remedies of savages merit more attention than the new ones of practitioners of a civilized country, because it is the beneficial effects which keep up their reputation among

the former, whereas the latter generally bring forward a remedy merely to give publicity to their own names. In our next number we expect to be enabled to give the result of our experience with the infusion of these leaves.

GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.—Our correspondent at Birmingham informs us, that a clergyman in his neighbourhood, who had been a martyr to gout, has taken the wine of the Colchicum Seeds with most extraordinary benefit, under the direction of Dr. Booth, an eminent physician of that place. The alcaline wine of the seeds noticed in our last number, appears in nearly all the prescriptions written in London, for rheumatism and gout, and its almost immediate beneficial effects have not only astonished the patients, but also the prescribers. This Wine is now sold, with very explicit directions from this work, to ensure a proper exhibition of it.

A gouty gentleman of Birmingham speaks in very high terms of the Tincture recommended by Dr. Wilson, in his Treatise on Gout, and we have no reason to say that the Alcaline Wine is superior to it. The writer of this article has taken the Alcaline Wine with the most decided benefit, not only in removing rheumatism, or rather rheumatico-gouty pains in the extremities and back, (which it effectually did in two days,) but also improving his general health, by invigorating the stomach and bowels. The disordered state of the stomach and head ceased with the affection of the back and extremities. From Paris and Vienna we have received very favourable accounts of the Colchicum Seeds, as an antirheumatic and antithritic remedy, which we shall give in detail in our next number.

SOFTNESS OF THE BRAIN.—A Dr. Rostan has published "*Researches* on a Disease," which he and his friend Dr. Palmer of Tamworth suppose to have been hitherto little known, and which have received the name of "Softening of the Brain!" That the public may not think unfavourably of the faculty for not having discovered the malady, the learned Doctor observes, "although there exists a number of *latent* and *very obscure* diseases, it does not follow that they have been *ill* observed. The very *knowledge* of *such exceptions* constitutes, on the contrary, a proof of more *advanced* observation!!" So, according to the Doctor's opinion of his discovery, he is a man of "*advanced* observation!!" He relates no less than 22 cases to prove the frequency of "softening of the brain," and concludes with a promise of publishing more!! The Doctor's practice, like that of Dr. Hastings of Worcester, (noticed in our 61st No.) has not entirely deprived *him* of the great advantage of "*post mortem*" examination of his patients, that is, in common language, an examination of their bodies after death. For evidence of softness or softening of the brain, we need not take the trouble of dissecting bodies. The writings and practice of many physicians, and the success of regular and irregular quacks, afford incontrovertible proofs of the general prevalence of this malady. As Dr. Shirley Palmer deems the "Researches of Dr. Rostan" of that importance, as to notice his cases in his contributions to "Morbid Anatomy," we must not offer that medical censor or critic so great an insult as to pass over them *all* in silence.

A woman aged 41, who had been for some years blind, but who had never suffered any "paralytic seizure," suddenly fell down deprived of

sense and motion, without any premonitory symptom, and was *carried* to the Infirmary." Among the symptoms, which the Doctor and old women of the institution discovered, he notices the following, "*Reclination* on the back; head fixed for a *moment*, then turned to the right or left; *arms* raised in *all* directions, with a *sort* of agitation; *left* hand *incessantly* fixed on the forehead, the *right* very moveable, never *passing the level* of the *skin*. On being touched or pinched, she raised herself with an expression of anger; and when questioned, seemed to listen and remained motionless. The skin warm, pulse strong and very frequent, respiration, action of the heart and *sound of the Thorax* (chest) natural; jaws constricted, but *still* separable; tongue red and dry, evacuations natural!" The Doctor ordered a blister to the nape of the neck, FIFTEEN *leeches to the anus*, and purgative lavements; the latter of which, he says, could not be administered in consequence of the "*violent agitation* of the patient!!" The following day, he found her more calm, *imbecility* complete. To the remedies prescribed, he "ordered *cream of tartar*." On the next day, "The mouth *was drawn* to the left; motion of the right arm and leg considerably diminished; on pinching the arm *pain after a time was felt.* Could not articulate and put the left *arm* to the forehead." The following day, she could not swallow; after which she continued to sink so rapidly, that in two days more, she discharged her debt to nature!!

On *Dissection*, the learned Doctor states, he found "the *exterior* natural; the walls of the heart thickened; the left side enlarged; the membrane of the brain, termed *Dura mater, thin* and *transparent:* and the *anterior Lobes anteriorily* SOFTENED and ADHERENT; and *all* the neighbouring part of the right hemisphere of the brain exhibited the same alteration, especially near its lower point, where the organ was pulpy, and *as it were purulent.* The optic nerves, and *other* portions of the brain, natural."

A woman, aged 69, was admitted an in-patient of the infirmary, on the 21st of May 1820, for a *slight catarrhal affection;* "On the 12th of June she became *suddenly* senseless, and presented half an hour afterwards, *complete* loss of consciousness, motion, and sensibility, particularly of the left side; pale countenance, slight contortion of the mouth to the right, *contracted* pupils, frequent and difficult respiration, pulse hard, frequent, and regular." The learned Doctor ordered twelve leeches to be applied to the *neck*, and purgative injections to be administered. On the 13th, he ordered the leeches to be reapplied, and the injections to be continued; on the following day, a blister to the nape of the neck, and mustard poultice to the feet. The symptoms, for ten days, remained unaltered. The pulse then became less frequent, and strong; respiration natural; *palsy* of the left side complete; *general* insensibility of the skin, particularly on the left side; tongue *inclined* to the right; pupils contracted; intellectual faculties recovering." Four days afterwards, the tongue was *dry* and *blackish;* bowels costive; he ordered Peruvian bark, with rhubarb. On the further expiration of twelve days, the tongue was very *dry*, and *blackish;* the *left* pupil dilated; purging, (which had continued five or six days); the weakness and difficulty of articulation continued to increase; the *mouth and tongue sooty.*" The purging continued, and on the expiration of ten days, her

soul finding its earthy tenement no longer habitable, afforded the Doctor the opportunity of discovering the cause of its departure to another world. In his account of the appearances on dissection, he states, "the emaciation general; skin, *yellow and earthy; left* pupil dilated!! *interior* of the mouth covered with a sooty layer; the membranes of the brain were *very pale*, and the organs presented a SOFTENING of the *whole* middle lobe of the right hemisphere; the *softening* was limited by the unaltered *right* ventricle; externally it extended to the cortical substance; The rest of the brain, although *soft*, was healthy. In the lungs there were tubercles; the heart was very small, pale and lacerable; the liver yellow and flabby."

The two cases above noticed, are the eighth and ninth in the Doctor's list. Now, if the Doctor, by previous examination of the bodies of patients who had died under his care, had ascertained that a *softening* of the brain existed in similar cases, on what principle did he order blood to be extracted? The softening of the brain, the transparency of its membranes, and the flaccid state of the liver, indicated debility, and, in our opinion, rather a want than a superabundance of blood. It is worthy of remark that, when the affection of the head occurred, the pupils were in a state of contraction, that the *left* pupil did not become dilated till fifteen days afterwards, when the system had been reduced by bleeding and purgative medicines!

The poor woman was admitted an in-patient "for a *slight* catarrhal affection on the 21st of May;" a complaint which, one would suppose, might have been effectually cured in a week; yet however, on the twelfth of June, she was not only in the hospital, but seized with a disease, which the treatment of a catarrhal complaint was likely to prevent. To our *soft* brain, the Doctor's narrative of symptoms, in the first case, is incomprehensible, or rather extremely puzzling: the *arms*, he says, were raised in all directions, and yet the left hand was *incessantly* fixed to the forehead; she was deprived of sense and motion, and yet on *touching* and *pinching*, she raised herself with an expression of anger. His friend, Dr. Palmer, in his *pathological* remarks, will no doubt explain these apparent contradictions; and also, why his learned friend allowed purging to continue, or kept it up by Peruvian bark and rhubarb, when the vital powers were rapidly declining: to us, whatever the Doctor's brain may be, his practice appears very *soft*. In the second case, the state of the pupils of the eyes clearly proves that the brain was not compressed, and that the case was of course not apoplexy: will Doctor Palmer say it was not typhus fever? What the first case was, no medical man can say from the Doctor's statement of her symptoms; to us it appears that many of the symptoms, the violent agitation, &c. might have been the effects of fear on an extremely timid subject, induced by the application of *fifteen* leeches to the anus, and the exhibition of the lavement apparatus, the Doctor's countenance, or wig, dread of being dissected, &c. &c. The Doctor's cases are however highly interesting to the public, on account of shewing with what facility theorists or dreamers can make facts bend to preconceived hypotheses: now, had the bodies been examined by Dr. Hastings, he would have directed his attention to the state of the membrane lining the windpipe,

and bronchia, and instead of softening of the brain, the case would, by him, have been pronounced chronic, or acute bronchitis: inasmuch as the vessels of the membranes were no doubt in a state of distension, a state which takes place previous to dissolution, probably in consequence of being the last of the smaller vessels which cease to act. The Doctor has neglected to give one very important information, viz. how soon after the dissolution of his patients he examined their brains. The brain in a few hours after death becomes soft, particularly in summer. The Doctor and his friend have, no doubt, chosen a very proper subject for a *practical* dissertation, and we trust their "*practical* researches" will lead to a more successful treatment of *softening* of the brain, a disease which we suspect has for some years prevailed in Europe, and to which may be attributed the present distressed and unsettled state of many of its countries. In this most praiseworthy undertaking, we recommend those gentlemen to strengthen their brains, by reading Dr. Haslam's admirable treatise on the Morbid Appearances of the Brain, and the symptoms of a sound mind; and also, Morgagni's celebrated work on the Causes and Seat of Diseases, from which they will learn the appearance a healthy brain exhibits, and the very opposite states of the brain in the same mental or corporeal disease. One observation that Dr. Rostan made, during his "post mortem" examination, that of the pupil of the *left* eye being dilated, is certainly creditable to him and his learned friend Dr. Palmer: the latter will probably inform us, in his next publication, why the *right* pupil was not in the same state: the eye being free from disease, it would indeed be an extraordinary circumstance, if it were not in that state after death.

WEAK SIGHT.—Boel's ophthalmic powder, for weakness of sight, is a composition of valerian powder, common snuff, and the oils of lavender and marjoram, in the following proportions:—

Take of Wild Valerian root, finely powdered;
The common Tobacco Snuff, of each half an ounce;
Oil of Lavender Flowers;
Oil of Rosemary, of each six drops.—Mix well together.

To be used as snuff.

This composition for weakness of sight is inferior to a mixture of the compound asarabacca powder and rappee, noticed in our third number.

VERMICULAR ABSCESSES.—Dr. Weigant, of Vienna, states that he has lately met with a case of tumours (one in each groin), each of which contained a worm, which in length and size resembled the intestinal long round worm. The heads were of a bluish colour, and the fauces open. About twenty years ago we saw a man with the whole right arm very considerably tumefied, with a large ulcer above the elbow, from which the medical man who had been in attendance, positively stated, he had removed a large worm, of the form of the common earth-worm. The arm mortified, and the patient shortly afterwards died.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—On the anniversary of the birth-day of the immortal Dr. William Hunter, a lecture, termed the Hunterian lecture, is delivered in the theatre of the institution by one of the court of directors, who are in point of fact the proprietors. We have noticed the Hunterian lectures by Mr. Abernethy and Mr. Wilson. On the 14th inst. one was *preached* by Mr. Chevallier, before a full meeting

of the proprietors and the *voluntary or involuntary* annual subscribers, whom the proprietors politely denominate *Members*. The subject being confined to the progress of surgery from the division of the stem of the apple by Eve, and the separation of the fig-leaf from the branch by Adam, to the grand operations of Dr William Hunter and his brother John, a lecturer after Abernethy, Wilson, and others, must be at a great loss for matter sufficiently interesting to keep the audience or *congregation* awake. No man is more competent to the task than Mr. Chevallier, who is not only well acquainted with the ancient and modern history of surgery, *sacred* and *profane*, but a good practical surgeon, and a real good man. This gentleman commenced with a very just eulogium on the celebrated Dr. William Hunter, who may indeed be considered the founder of the institution, for had he not contributed so largely towards its establishment, the application to government would have proved unavailing. Mr. Chevallier took a *lively* view of the progress of the surgical art till it arrived to a science. He emphatically pointed out the necessity, or rather duty, of surgeons to attend themselves to the cases of their patients, by pointing out the success of the immortal Nelson in his attack on Copenhagen, which he attributed to his having himself *sounded* the Sound. That battle he termed a *tremendous one;* thereby meaning to infer that the favourable result of a tremendous operation depends as much on the subsequent treatment as on the manner in which it was performed, and a knowledge of the real state of the disease. We suspect this necessary hint to the surgeons of the London hospitals, who immediately surrounded him, will not be soon forgotten by them, as the master very properly gave it effect by putting in motion alternately the three corners of his hat, which he has the *privilege* of wearing on this occasion. Considering the dryness of the subject, the congregation was very attentive. Mr. C. invited the subscribers to visit the museum, and pointed out the advantages of inspecting the great variety of specimens of organic diseases it contains. The general satisfaction his discourse gave to the proprietors and subscribers will, we hope, induce him to publish it.

IODINE.—As this article is likely to be much employed in cases of wen and scrophula, it is of importance to ascertain from what substance it can be procured in the greatest quantity, and of the purest quality. In the year 1819, it appears, that Mr. Fife, of Edinburgh, detected it in sponge. Mr. Chavereul has found it in the bones of the head of the crab, and of the large lobster. Mr. Straub, of Hofwyl, as early as December, 1819, discovered it in the former, and then proposed it to be employed in medicine in lieu of the burnt sponge. It is procured from burnt sponge, by infusing and occasionally rubbing it in distilled water. The solution, after being poured off clear, should be decomposed by the sulphuric acid. In this manner, says M. Straub, "so much was obtained from half an ounce, as to confirm the opinions previously entertained, that the medicinal properties of the burnt spunge, are owing to Iodine." Mr. Straub has also discovered this article in burnt turf. When Iodine cannot be obtained, he recommends a saturated tincture of burnt sponge to be employed. Mr. Carmichael, of Dublin, and other respectable surgeons, both of London and Edinburgh, inform us, that they are giving the Iodine a trial in cases of wen and scrophula, so that in the

course of a month or two, we shall no doubt be enabled to speak decidedly of its effects, in those diseases.

PERUVIAN BARK.—The last No. of the Parisian Medical Review contains an account, by a M. Double, of the method employed by M. Pelletier, for procuring the alcaline basis of the Peruvian Bark, termed by him *Cinchonine*, and of the very favourable results of repeated exhibitions of a sulphate of the article, (sulphate of cinchonine) in intermittent fevers, and cases of rheumatism, attended with general debility. M. Double suggests the propriety of extending the use of the sulphate of cinchonine to pulmonary consumption, after the complete removal of the inflammatory symptoms, by local or general blood-letting, blistering, &c. Cinchonine has been long known in this country, under the name of the Essential Salt of Bark, and is, no doubt, the best preparation we possess of the Peruvian bark, perhaps the only one which contains all its medicinal or chemical properties. The same preparation of the Rhatany Root is much cheaper, and in every respect superior to it as a tonic medicine.

THE STATE OF MEDICINE IN GREAT BRITAIN.—We have received a copy of a work, entitled "Advice to the Physician, the Surgeon and the Apothecary, and to their patients, by a Physician." It is written after the manner of the celebrated Dean Swift, with practical and illustrative notes, evidently founded on long observation and experience. Medicine is defined to be the art of preserving health, prolonging life, and mitigating or curing diseases; and viewed in this light, there cannot be, as the author observes, a more interesting, useful and pleasing occupation when *conscientiously* and *faithfully* pursued. But alas, alas! all human Institutions, even those of Religion itself, have a natural tendency to degenerate! In some hands, medicine has become a traffic of a very doubtful description; and in others, it has been productive of much imposition and human misery, many instances of which we have noticed. It is true that the Legislature have passed many acts to protect the public from those impostors, who exercise the art as *regular* practitioners, whilst to the venders of nostrums they grant a licence, with which the College of Physicians say they dare not interfere, or what is more likely the case, they will not interfere, because the traffic does not affect the *fee* trade. The English Universities must be supported by the Legislature, and the College of Physicians of London being a branch of it, a reform in medicine, that is likely to benefit the public, is, we suspect, very remote. We perfectly agree with the author of the pamphlet before us, "that it is a fair question whether it would not have been better for mankind in general, if the *Materia Medica* had never been discovered, or that any set of men had been allowed the exclusive exercise of medicine. Like him, we are inclined to that opinion, for being made under the present defective system, a trade of draughts, pills and mixtures on the one hand, and by admitting the ignorant and false practice of a certain set of practitioners on the other, we conceive that less evils by far would have occurred, if nature had been left entirely to her own powers. We must, however, do the apothecaries of this country the justice to say, that they have been compelled to "pour in draughts" in consequence of the Legislature not allowing them to make a moderate charge for attendance, and of the false confidence the public place in the

abilities of a certain class of physicians, who are, in fact, a set of pretenders. Under the head of "Advice to Physicians," our author observes,

"If you have graduated at Oxford or Cambridge, where the practice of medicine is less taught than any other science, you must give yourself credit for great medical attainments, and assume an air of importance, as being, in your own opinion, superior to all those whose degrees have been derived from Edinburgh, or any other university; where every branch of useful learning, necessary to constitute the complete physician, is more particularly cultivated; so much so, indeed, that a student in Edinburgh or London would acquire as much knowledge in six months' attendance at the hospitals, and on the different professors in either of those cities, as in seven years' residence either in Oxford or Cambridge.

"At the outset of your practice, you will contrive to publish a medical Essay on some popular subject: such as the Gout, Rheumatism, Scrophula, &c. and those who are the martyrs of such disorders, will naturally send for one, who thus appears capable of instructing his brother practitioners. To all such patients you will hold out promises of a speedy and perfect recovery, though many of them may have been for years deemed incurable; and when you have exercised your ingenuity in the prescribing line, and carried them through all the common routine of remedies; which they had doubtless gone over, possibly several times, before, but in different forms; and they begin to lose their hopes, and give hints that they find no amendment whatever, you will be prepared to deny it, saying: 'Their own feelings are not to be relied on; and that you certainly are the best judge.' You can assure them, that, at any rate, their pulse is better; for when you first saw them it beat 100 in a minute, but it is now reduced to 75 only; a fact they cannot easily dispute, for they never measured it: and in such cases, when you take leave of these patients, you may adopt the common mode of the watering place practitioners, who, when their patients begin to perceive there is no prospect of relief, send them away with this comfortable assurance, that 'It is after you get home, the good effect of the waters in question generally becomes apparent; and their full benefit is felt.'

"When you are called to a patient, for the first visit, instead of listening with attention to the sufferer's own details of his case, which, in general, are of great consequence, the personal feelings best shewing the real bearings and most commonly the true cause of the disorder, you will, (like certain impudent and puzzling barristers, who sometimes unwarrantably endeavour to extract any thing but the truth from the mouth of a witness), cross examine the patient with such dexterity, that it may appear you can tell the feelings and symptoms of the patient better than he can himself. If he should persist in telling his own story in his own way, you must stop him, with a hint, that time is precious, with you; and, in proportion to the impatience, and perhaps rudeness of your behaviour, you will often obtain credit for being in great request, and as having large and extensive practice.

"If you are sent for by a person to a case of an attack of fever; no matter whether it is of the malignant, inflammatory, or nervous kind, (although each of these requires a different and perhaps opposite mode of treatment,) you will immediately begin "*secundum artem*;" viz. in

the ancient and usual way, "*imprimis*," prescribe, Bleeding; secondly, an Emetic; thirdly, all sorts of what are called febrifuges, such as *Mindererus'* spirit (of late called *Liquor Ammoniæ acetatis*); Dover's powder, (now also designated by a new name); fourthly, Aperients, Anodynes, etc. etc, and, probably, in due time, Bark. But, if you should, per adventure, begin with that well known, but envied medicine, the real James's Powder, in the small dose of one, or two grains, every six or eight hours, accompanied with a very plentiful dilution of water, that has been boiled, and slightly flavoured with the non-pareil apple, or the baum leaf, the disorder would, in all human probability, be carried off in less than forty-eight hours: whereas the former plan, by making a simple case a complex one, renders a long attendance necessary; and sentence of nursing and regimen will thus be passed upon your patient, for a length of time. He will, however, have this advantage, for, after such a course of discipline, he will come out fresh, and sleek as a racer; and no one will deny that the loss of superfluous fat, is a great gain to a heavy man, and the frequent advertised "*secret remedy against corpulency*," sold in or near Lamb's Conduit Street, may probably turn out to be something in this way. If, in addition to his other disagreeables, your patient should be troubled with a sore throat, it will furnish an opportunity for another article of the pharmacopœia; you will, therefore, send him a *gargarism*; and, as those in general use, are either, astringent, or repellent, or both; it may delay the natural cure, by closing up the follicles of the membranes lining the throat; but, if nature be left to herself, the abundant mucous discharge from the throat and fauces, would quickly and naturally remove the soreness of itself: these sort of auxiliaries must, however, be had recourse to; for, the patient will not be satisfied, unless *the enemy* is attacked at all points; and he will think himself neglected, that his throat is not to be *treated* with a gargle. In such a case, however, the dry one, being the most innocent, and most amusing; viz. a powder composed of five grains of nitre, twenty of white sugar, and the sixth of a gram of white pepper, shaken dry into the mouth, and swallowed gradually, will best answer all such purposes.

"The Writing of your Prescriptions at the finish of your visit, will require some consideration, and you will recollect, that the said prescription may be liable to be pored over, by the patient or his friends; as well as by the apothecary; it will, therefore, be your business to make it as obscure, and mysterious as possible; and let there be in it nothing *common* or *simple:* all odd, extraordinary, and compounded articles, look best on paper; and will give an high idea of your ingenuity: and this mode of novelty, and of puzzling the patient and bye-standers, has, I verily believe, been the true reason why some very strange articles have ever found their way into the human stomach. A wine bibber was advised to desist from his quantity: 'No,' says he, 'I cannot do without it; the greatest pleasure in life, to me, is to bother my brain with *black strap for four hours* every day after dinner.' So it was, I suppose, that the *Cicuta* (Hemlock) came to be so much in use about twenty years ago, it having a power of inducing a *pleasant vertigo and deadly sickness*, for many hours after taking it: vast numbers of his Majesty's liege subjects were half poisoned by it, for years, before it was found out that it had little, or perhaps no power whatever to cure diseases, perhaps quite the con-

trary: and the German practitioner, Dr. Storck, who wrote cases, in which he alleged its wonderful efficacy in curing Cancers and Scrophula, was disbelieved, and strongly suspected of fabricating them merely to put his name before the public for the sake of notoriety, or to provoke discussion and a trial of its merits.

"In the same way, probably, and for the sake of novelty, or fashion, there have been not a few martyrs to other articles, yclept, *remedies*; and we are no friends to, at least have great doubts of, the *Digitalis*; the *Hyosciamus*, the *Stramonium*, the *Humulus Lupulus*, the *Quassia*, and some others; *medicines*, whose high sounding names are apt to mislead the unskilful, but whose effects are only to be personally felt, to be fairly appreciated.

"The celebrated John Hunter, for the sake of finding the best cure for the syphilis, inoculated himself with that loathsome disease; in order, personally, to experience in his own feelings the various symptoms and effects of the usual remedies prescribed for it. A mode certainly the most likely to come to a right knowledge of the nature, progress, and cure of that disorder. What we have to propose is a similar method of *personal experience* and feelings, but far less formidable in the undertaking. We would have every favorer and prescriber of the *digitalis*, and the other before-mentioned active and disgusting articles, prevailed on, to swallow what he is so fond of advising for others; that is to say, *hob-nob*, with his patient: a second, if not the first taking into his own stomach, might illuminate his intellect, and give him not only a clear idea of the misery, some of them are capable of producing; but would quite satisfy him, that, were he to continue it (as he is wont occasionally, to advise his patients) the good health he now enjoys might possibly give way to the steady use of such active and violent *remedies*, and for ever after, he would, like certain brewers, suffer any thing rather than drink their own beer: and the *hob-nob* plan here proposed would go a great way towards a very desirable amelioration of the practice of medicine; as well as a great abatement probably of the sufferings of many sick persons!

"If you are called to a case where spitting of blood, is one of the most prominent and alarming symptoms: a situation of circumstances in which a slow, tedious, and deliberate practitioner, would deem it of the utmost importance, carefully to ascertain, whether it is caused by an inflammatory state of the system, and an increased action of the heart and arteries; or whether it is arising from a weakened action of those vessels, and the blood, from its dissolved state, effusing itself into the air-vessels of the lungs, producing cough and bloody expectoration. In such a disorder you will have an opportunity of showing your promptness and decision. You will not stop to enquire whether the case is inflammatory or the reverse, but, at once, prescribe a *copious bleeding* and all sorts of *antiphlogistic* and *lowering* medicines; and, the next day, when you find the blood still is coughed up from the lungs; and that the patient, is exceedingly low, and the relatives doubt whether all is going on successfully, you must shew that your practice and judgment were correct, by ordering *another* bleeding; and go on even for the *third* time, and this will shew the bye-standers what a *bold* practitioner you are, and give you great eclat as a man fit to be *implicitly* confided in.

In the course of your practice, you will occasionally be called in, upon another physician, to hold a consultation: upon these occasions there is so much ceremony to be understood, that we confess ourselves at a loss to give you any rule to go by. The etiquette however very *properly* is all for the interest of the medical practitioner, and consequently not much in favour of the patient. If then, you should arrive at the house first, you are by no means to proceed to the sick room, let the emergency be ever so great; no! you must be cooped up in a room by yourself, as if you were to proceed to prayers, or to consult the occult sciences; and you must there wait for the physician, whose property the patient is; for, should you go to the bedside alone, you might have a better opportunity to perceive the real nature of the disorder; and might, inadvertently, disclose an opinion different from what had been passed before.

(To be continued.)

EDUCATION.—*The Editors request their correspondents on the subject of Education of Youth, to confine their discussions to such practices or modes of punishment or instruction, which are likely to affect the general health of the body or diminish the powers of the mind.*

SIRS,—Although the subject of the education of youth embraces considerations highly interesting to every class of society, and has been so ably discussed in your valuable work by Eliza J. Quintus, Ominous Q. Genio and Dominus P. I suspect many of your readers will not thank me for having made a communication which has given rise to so long a correspondence. My strictures were confined to the modes of punishment very prevalent in this country, which operate injuriously both on the body and mind, and particularly that of long tasks, for supposed negligence or obstinacy, which, in fact, was attributable only to incapability or the want of intellect. By the practice of sending a young person to bed without supper or dinner, or by keeping him without food a day, once or twice a week, many a constitution has been for ever ruined, and by imposing a double or treble task when the youth was incapable of learning one, many have been rendered idiotic for life. I beg to ask your correspondent, Dominus P. *alias* Dominus Busby, what is the intention of educating youth? The object is, in my humble opinion, to bring forth the different faculties of the mind, and particularly that which distinguishes man from the brute creation, named *reason*. Will he say, that schoolmasters or mistresses have this in view? Instead of maturing the different faculties of the mind, or bringing them into action, as you would probably say, to bring forward the different organs of the brain, the system of education is in general merely mechanical. The children are pushed on from one task to another, from one book to another, and all they learn is by rote. The whole falls on the organ of memory, and this mode is generally pursued till the youth has completed his education, and what he has learnt often continues, as it were, dormant, in consequence of its having been acquired by rote.

The practice which is general throughout the country, of using the Bible as a school book, is, I think, the principal reason of its being so seldom read or studied with attention. The youth who has thus read it mechanically, and by dint of repetition got it by heart, seldom afterwards peruses it with attention. The same may be said of the Prayer-book, having learnt the prayers by heart, he, for the remainder of his

life, offers up his prayers mechanically. He follows the parson and clerk in words, whilst his mind is otherwise occupied. Will Dominus P. say, that our churches are not nearly filled with such visitors—nay, what is the chance that the minds of the parson and clerk are not similarly engaged? What then is the value of classical knowledge, if the possessor cannot apply it to some useful purpose, or if it does not enable him to exercise his mind more successfully in philosophical or scientific pursuits? Even men who have been conversant with the Latin and Greek Languages, and the works of the most eminent philosophers of all ages, or were in fact elegant classical scholars, are but too often so satisfied with their knowledge of the ancient authors, as to become useless members of the community, to make no more figure in the world than mere automatons; indeed, not so much so as the automaton chess player.

The late *learned* Professor Porson, was the first Grecian in Europe; but, as a member of Society, what was he? It is doubtless, necessary, that a child should be taught the alphabet, figures, and the different sounds we give to a certain combination of letters; but beyond these, he should not proceed till the mind begins to unfold itself, or the youth is capable of understanding what it reads, or rather a simple explanation of it. By following up this system, all the faculties of the mind would be brought forward, and none impaired, particularly that of perception, by the exertions of the memory alone. I agree with Dominus P., that the seeds of evil are too often sown by parents in the breasts of their offspring by indulgences, and he might have added, that the good effects of the best system of education on the disposition, produced in five months at school, are often destroyed by the conduct of parents during a month's vacation. I wish to ask Dominus P. if he has ever found his scholars to return after a month or five week's holidays with invigorated minds, or improved state of their general health? For my own part, I have always found children to return to school less healthy than when they left it. The unmeaning custom of giving holidays should, in my humble opinion, be abolished. It affords no relaxation to the mind, but on the contrary, increases the aversion from learning. Dominus P.'s supposition, that I have not been engaged in the education of youth is not correct, and I beg to assure him, that my experience, both in small families and large schools, by no means confirms his *positive* assertion that mild means, which may succeed in the former, will not in the latter. As to the *fear* or *dread* of punishment, which he recommends, I condemn it, even more than corporeal punishment, or even the use of the fool's cap, because it is well known, that it tends greatly to diminish the energy of the mind. My experience, it is true, has not been so extensive as that of Dominus P. In the course of fifteen years I have had under my care at least six hundred young ladies and gentlemen, and I am proud to say, of that number I never met with one who was not, after the the age of six years, grateful for the explanations I gave her of her tasks, and for instructions relative to her religious duties, &c. Indeed, by instructing youth in *rational* religion, and pointing out their duty to their parents and others, I am satisfied, more may be done than by any corporeal or mental punishment. Youth is very inquisitive and affectionate, and impressions received at this

period of life are not easily obliterated, provided they are rational. When the mind cannot be brought under the influence of good advice and friendly instruction, it must be in a diseased state, and in that case flagellation and even the fool's cap may be employed, under the direction of a man who has paid attention to the diseases of the mind. When a *schoolmaster* discovers such a youth in his flock, pray what is his duty? In my opinion, instead of hardening the feelings of the other scholars, by subjecting him to frequent corporeal punishment, he should lose no time in sending him to his parent, for the old adage, one shabby sheep will spoil a flock, is very true. To expel such a lad from his school, would have a more beneficial effect on the minds of the rest, than any species of punishment. I beg to assure Dominus P., that my wish is to see youth educated, so that they may become useful members of society, and not merely *learned* men, who are incapable of applying their store of classic knowledge to the benefit of man, who in fact are no better than a set of automatons or barber's blocks, decorated with the wigs of learned men. There are two more practices which prevail in the first seminaries for the education of young ladies, which, in my opinion, are very injurious to health. The first is:—That of putting them to lie on a board in an horizontal position for two hours every day, for the purpose of preserving a good shape, or keeping the back straight. In this position the head becomes so surcharged with blood, that I have known young ladies to remain giddy and stupid many hours after it, and I think I may with truth say, that some have become idiotic, and others have lost their lives in consequence of it. This assertion I make on the authority of the first anatomist and surgeon in this country. The other is the exercise of the arms with "dumb bells," with the view of enlarging the chest. Spitting of blood and cough, which terminated fatally, I have known to follow their use. The capacity of the chest being adapted to the size of the lungs, it must be clear, that any attempt to increase the former, must prove injurious, at least, so says Mr. Abernethy. In my next letter, I purpose taking up the subject of innate disposition, and to endeavour to prove, that the boasted intellectual superiority of man over woman arises solely from difference of education. To your intelligent correspondents, Eliza J—, Genio, Ominous Q., Quintus and Dominus P., for their very sensible remarks on the interesting subject of the education of youth, which I have perused several times with much pleasure, I beg to return my best thanks. I am, Sirs, your very much obliged servant,

January 20th, 1821. JANE W——.

Sirs,—Having had occasion in the 60th number of your Gazette of Health, to make some animadversions on the Letters of Dominus P. I find that a gentleman, signing himself Genio, has taken this opportunity to bustle forward with the very ludicrous, though avowed, motive of shielding Dominus P. *from any severity, but such as he thought proper to inflict himself.*

Though there is nothing pertinent, and little intelligible, in his Letter, I consider myself bound, in common civility, to make some return for the notice he has so obligingly taken of me: in the course of which it will appear whether Genio be better calculated to give or receive protection.

After a most piteous complaint that I have "embroiled" him (to whom I have not made even the most distant allusion,) through the offence of others, he observes, that Quintus, "to silence Dominus P., as well as to exhibit his own learning, quotes Quintilian, *whom* he conceives to be more analagous to our own *times*." I need not inform those that have read my letter, that Genio himself is the author of this absurd analogy between persons and times: but it is no wonder he should misapprehend me, since he has not even taken care to understand himself. In his first communication he disclaims all acquaintance with letters, to which, he says, "I cannot have the slightest pretensions;" in his second, he wishes "to appear learned, as well as others of your correspondents." Again, when some accusations are preferred against parents by Dominus P. he burns "with indignation to vindicate the sacred name, and punish the bold accuser as he deserves." Afterwards he tells us, the charges are brought forward, probably "with *more truth* than politeness." With the same propensity to blunder, he condemns the introduction of wit and *poetry*, charges to which he and Dominus P. are *exclusively* subject: in short, it would fill up a whole letter to point out the instances in which he has misquoted me and others, and contradicted himself and common sense.

"His fair colleagues too," says Genio, "who, in the suavity of their nature have raised the standard of rebellion against fool's caps and the like, seemed to have overlooked the most probable mode of annihilating those terrific instruments of endurance vile."

For my part, and I dare say I have the concurrence of my fair colleagues too, he might long have had peaceable possession of "fool's caps and the like," for his "own separate use and behoof," if he had not, like *the fox in the fable*, endeavoured to cozen our children into the same ignominious uniform with himself. As to his paltry sneer at "anti-foolscap Amazons," I am convinced, from perusal of *their* letters, that either of the ladies thus designated, would be ashamed to acknowledge *Genio's*. In the present age, it requires no small share of effrontery and ignorance, to ridicule the acquirements of the female sex, when almost every branch of learning has been cultivated by female genius. If women do not understand the subject of *practical education* better than men, I will only tell them, it is full time they should: it is to their care our offspring's early moments are intrusted; it is their plastic hand that forms their youthful habits: and Bacon has told us that "education is only early custom." Every attempt, therefore, to scare them from a discussion in which they are so deeply interested, merits the strongest reprobation.

Locke and Quintilian are, according to Genio, "newly discovered luminaries in the scholastic hemisphere," afterwards "innovators." His acquaintance with these writers may be very recent indeed, but I thought that the cant of innovation had been too often scouted to be seriously urged now. It is notorious that one-third of the human species do not live to arrive at mature age: but while there is so convenient a mode of accounting for this as taxing the Author of our nature, there can be no need of innovating on the treatment of them within that period.

The only opinion that he has himself advanced on the subject of edu-

cation is contained in the lines immediately following those last quoted. In these he tells us, that inculcating docility cherishes passive obedience. This, if I understand it rightly, is little better than an identical proposition. The question he proposes to me is trifling; for though I grant him the position he requires, it proves nothing in the present instance, his subsequent assertion being false. But why is the gentleman so concise if he understood his subject? not in mercy to your pages, for these he has taken up with poetic embellishments, threatening to set the Thames on fire, and other matter equally to the purpose.

You will now, Sirs, naturally expect from me some apology for troubling you with these letters: I can only say that the subject was one in which every person must have felt a deep interest: that it was taken up by your correspondent, Dominus P., with a spirit calculated to preclude all freedom of discussion: that he employed abusive epithets, and made assertions, founded on the authority of a writer, whom he cautioned us it was wicked and impious to contradict. My original intention in coming forward was merely to combat this illiberal spirit, and not to give opinions on education, which my avocations would not allow; nor to silence your correspondent, as Genio falsely alleges.

Dominus P. is a teacher of youth, and, like persons accustomed to look minutely into particular objects, has thereby contracted the sphere of his vision. He seems, however, to have the interest of his pupils at heart; and if his zeal for intellectual education has made him overlook its influence on health and morals, it will be no small extenuation that "the love he bore to learning was in fault."

In taking leave of this discussion, I owe him an apology for having sometimes coupled his name with that of Genio. The deep-rooted prejudices, and overbearing spirit, of the former, may awaken keen opposition and angry feeling; but the impotent malice, and flippant vulgarity, of the latter, can only excite derision and disgust.

Dublin, Jan. 23, 1821. QUINTUS.

SIRS,—Dominus P—— is again induced, he would almost say compelled, to make his appearance, at an earlier period than he intended, being particularly anxious, before he made any further communications, to read the observations of enlightened and impartial persons, whose experience has extended to ten, fifteen, or twenty years practice, with from twenty to one hundred children;—persons who have actually devoted their abilities to every branch of the duties incumbent on preceptors and preceptresses (he had nearly made use of those odious and vulgar words, *Schoolmasters* and *Schoolmistresses*, so objectionable to the refined, the acute, the enlightened theorist, *Quintus*, who, it appears, measures the sense of the subject by the sound of the words, as some persons do the harmony of music by the noise of the instrument, to whom the braying of an ass must excel the melodious warbling of a nightingale), from teaching the alphabet, up to the highest branches of the classics, mathematics, philosophy, together with the most refined and polite accomplishments: persons who have devoted their time wholly to the subject; not by their pedagogal hypodidasculi, ushers, assistants, teachers, and a long list of *et cæteras*, many, very many, of whom may be met with, and who may be classed with numerous Inspectors, Directors, Overseers, Managers, Visitors, &c.

of Free Schools; whose practical knowledge extends as far as their eyes can reach, or by the information obtained from a written report: with persons of this latter description Dominus P—— will not trouble himself in answering, refuting or demonstrating the impracticability or impossibility of adopting the measures they propose, but will wholly disregard them; allowing every just praise for their good intentions, attributing their errors more to the head than to the heart; for, their cause must be good, where gentleness, mildness, and mercy, are the points they contend for; as Shakspeare beautifully observes:

> The quality of MERCY is not strain'd;
> It droppeth, as the gentle rain from heaven,
> Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd;
> It blesseth him that gives and him that takes;
> 'Tis mightiest in the mightiest, it becomes
> The throned monarch better than his crown;
> *His* sceptre shows the force of temp'ral power,
> The attribute to awe and majesty,
> Wherein do set the dread and fear of kings;
> But MERCY is above this sceptred sway,
> It is enthroned in the heart of kings,
> It is an attribute to God himself:
> And earthly power doth then shew likest God's
> When MERCY seasons justice.

But, stop! whither is Dominus P—— wandering "*in citing the authority of a writer who lived in the infancy of Society, when the sum of human knowledge was comparatively small**," though Solomon declares "there is nothing new under the sun:" if the authority of the wisest man that ever lived, the writer of Proverbs;—if the Sacred Scriptures, both the Old and New Testament, are of no avail, are not worth attending to in this learned age; are we to expect that an insignificant character like Shakspeare, with his antiquated notions of *Mercy*, can merit any attention!—away with such ridiculous skiomachy, we have a much more comprehensive and refined *Mercy* in these our enlightened days, Quintus will tell us—if we attend to the radiations of *his* luminous mind, as coruscated in pages 750 *et seq.* Notwithstanding the high authority of Quintus, Dominus P—— is weak enough to prize much the man whom Johnson writes thus of:

> Each change of many-colour'd life he drew,
> Exhausted old worlds, then imagin'd new;
> Existence saw him spurn her bounded reign,
> And panting Time toil'd after him in vain.

Though fancy is a meteor, of bright but transitory lustre, irregular in its motion, and delusive in its direction.

With men of experience, such as Genio appears to be, from his manly, though in some cases insidious epistles, Dominus P—— will

* See Quintus.

with pleasure enter the field of contention; and should a single sentence be elicited which can tend to smooth the rugged path of teaching, to render agreeable, to soften down the asperity of some teachers, to prevent the cruelty of others, to excite emulation and a generous thirst of knowledge among pupils, to promote habits of industry, and diligence, with a veneration for, love of, and confidence in, their preceptors; he will feel himself happy, as having gained his point. He cannot here withhold stating, that he considers the academy conducted by Mr. Sauley, of Alton, eminently calculated to produce this desirable end; having seen several pupils who have done honour to their master's abilities, credit to their own application, and have given satisfaction to their discriminating parents. A periodical quarterly publication, under the name of Juvenalia, emanating from the pupils of this establishment, exhibits strong proofs of the superior direction and acquirement of pupils under his care, and merits the attention of parents.

That Ominous Q. or Quintus, or any other, may not be wholly passed by without notice, P—— will make some few remarks on their communications, and refers them to Jane W. and Eliza J. the latter of whom states, when speaking of punishment, "that every person who has had any experience in teaching, knows that *punishment cannot* be altogether dispensed with, and this punishment should be administered in such a manner, as to be an *example to the whole school.*" Now to define, and exemplify this punishment, and to confute Quintus, &c. Dominus P—— refers them to what he has written in page 712, the last sentence, where he has pointed out the manner of administering it, that it may produce the desired effect, so as to prevent a recurrence, both of the crime and its penalty. Dominus P—— is by *no means* an advocate for *corporeal punishment*, still less for a frequent repetition of it, which is in almost all cases injurious: he has moreover already stated, *that the fear of punishment is frequently more advantageous than the infliction of it.* Indeed, children should rather be governed through the medium of their affections, their sense of shame, promoting a desire to emulation, or of having performed their duty, than through fear and dislike. "Give me," says Quinctillian, "a child that is sensible of praise and touched with glory, that will cry at the shame of being outdone, and I will keep him to his business by emulation; reproof will afflict, and honour will encourage him; and I shall not fear, to cure him of his idleness."

Quintus is rather unfortunate in producing his learned quotation from Quinctillian; for, had he read a little further in the same author, he would have formed *Mollis illa educatio, quam indulgentiam vocamus, nervos omnes et mentis et corporis frangit. Indulgentia omnes ad vitia prosciores facit.* Since, on this subject, Quintus is fond of the classic authors, let him read what Xenophon says: *Ne nimia indulgentiâ mollities, animum invadat*, &c.; also Seneca, *Crede mihi nihil durius, quamc rescentibus annis per indulgentiam*, &c. and *Lenitas ei vitia datur*, &c.; also F. Petrarcha, *Durities sæpe salubris, semper damnosa mollities non lingua tantum sed nec virgæ parcendum*, &c. Refer also to the poet, whose words on education, are, even to a proverb, *Educatio aspera optima;* to Themistocles, M. Torquatus, Augustus, Agesilaus, Nerva. &c.; then make a nearer approach to the present time: look at Bacon,

Milton; read again Locke; turn to Blair, to Stretch, to Eugenio in Watts, to Johnson, Knox, Gregory, Chapone, More, Morris, Walker, and a thousand others of *real* experience, and he will find himself confounded and confuted.

The modesty of Quintus is offended at the mention of the feet being tied, of a young, disobedient, haughty, rude girl; when the very reason of their being tied was to prevent a recurrence of the very indecent exposure which she had made by her violent conduct.

In answer to the ridiculous observation on the word *dunce*, she had declared herself to be unequal to the lessons, and apparently proved it by not repeating them. With respect to the *herald*, all public establishments, our army, our navy, our courts, and laws, amply confute him without descending to argument; and the same application may be made to Quintus as was made to the Pharisees, "Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures;" but P—— is wasting his time by attending to these nugæ; he might as well expect to extract the rays of the sun from impenetrable darkness, as to correct Quintus's erroneous ideas: for he who fixes upon false principles, or fails in his deductions of right principles, sinks alike, and the error is equally fatal in both.

Dominus P—— declines trespassing further for the present; but will, in an early number, dance a reel or a hornpipe to the musical notes of *Verbum transativa* with Genio; he therefore concludes with one word of consolation to Quintus, Αριστον μετρον, and calls upon him to define and prove his system; moreover, that he may be assisted in his endeavours, Dominus P—— will place under Quintus's care a female of seven years, with whom he shall be at full liberty to reduce his mild theory to practice; and if, with this *one* pupil, he succeed by the means he suggests, the palm of victory shall be yielded to him for ever,

Palmam qui meruit ferat.

DOMINUS P——.

Jan. 15, 1821.

QUACKERY.—Sirs, My inspection of your pages has not been regular, nor even frequent, but merely casual and rare; by purchase of single numbers. Supposing us, in this case, to be both losers, my loss is the greater. You are only *minus* in pocket annually a few pence; I am *minus* in brain, many valuable sentiments. It is not my intention that such loss shall continue much longer, if at all. From this cause it has arisen, that I *know not* whether you have *often* directed your animadversions and insertions to *quacks* and *quack-medicines*; if you have not, allow me to suggest a hint or two, which may, eventually, be useful, if promptly adopted, and persevered in with spirit, year after year.

I would respectfully recommend that, with the first month in the ensuing year, you should *begin*, and with *every* subsequent Number, or as often as may suit your convenience, *continue*, to give, HALF a sheet *solely* filled with *that* subject; and let it be *separately paged*, bearing the title of "THE EMPIRIC," for the purpose of placing those matters, compendiously, on durable record; that the present age and posterity may know more than they otherwise would, respecting Empirics and empirical practice, in times past, near and far remote. The

order of insertion to be merely arbitrary; because chronological exactness may be easily rectified by a well-formed INDEX, or special Table. It cannot be fairly doubted that many correspondents will give you aid; by communications: which, being promptly and *regularly* announced, will prevent your being troubled with *repetitions* of the same article, except to supply omissions in the first insertions.

Sirs, I shall feel gratified if you will let this, from me, have priority of location for the *first volume;* on the principle of priority of request; without pretending to any stronger claim for such station, unless it be striking singularity: but, in every regular series of Numbers, there must be some preceding unit; and it is of very little importance, which precedes or follows, in such cases as this, where priority does not give augmentation of force, nor superior claim to respect.

A few days ago, I purchased a small volume. At what *precise* period it was printed, I cannot state; because the bottom of the title page, where the imprint and date usually are, was completely torn off, so that not even a bookseller's name might lead to probable conjecture, concerning the time; nor have I found any other such clew, in the space of 144 pages; unless it can be from the *author's* name, or the name of the person, a *near relation*, at whose house his *various* medicines were sold. A short advertisement prefixed, to that intent, shall be copied as a note, either at the end of *this* letter, or in a *second* letter, *if* another ensue, which seems to me *now* very probable.

The author signs *William Walwyn*, Physician. The title of his book, "Physic for Families." It has afforded me *considerable* amusement, or *lectional* pleasure, but not much *solid* instruction, in medical science. It is *not* a neatly *methodical* publication. It might, with ease, have been properly divided into *three* leading sections. *First*, Remarks and Censures against ordinary practice. *Secondly*, Names, Doses, and Prices of his several Medicines. *Thirdly*, Fourscore Cases, describing their efficacy.

In the *first* part there are a *few* good sound observations, blended with *many* absurdities, against the use of bleeding, purging, vomiting, glisters, blisters, &c. This terminates on page 44. The *second* part, above 20 pages, ends on page 66; and from thence to page 140, the *wonderful* cures are related; but, not a single name of any patient, nor place of abode, given; only as, a gentleman, a lady, a child, a boy, a sea-captain, a youth, a young maid; a person about 30, 35, 60, &c. &c.

Respecting the *first* and *third* parts, no more will here be said; but I have taken the trouble to form the second part into a brief or compendious columnar table, exhibiting names and doses of, and periods of taking, the various nostrums; and thereto attached a few reflections. A *small specimen* from that table (which may *all* be seen in less than one page), shall *herein* appear.

It would be of no use to describe, in this letter, the various complaints for which the profound Doctor's medicines were given, nor *his* theory of diseases. These matters may be seen in his book and *index;* and, if only 250 *medical* men, or *other* gentlemen, would subscribe *two* shillings each, to afford themselves perhaps not less *amusement* than I have had, from the Doctor's *professions* of *modesty* and *benevolence*, and abhorrence of avarice, I would readily bring out one edition to

that extent; printed in a neat manner, somewhat methodized, by divisions, and a few occasional *notes;* but not omitting one word from alpha to omega, or from "physick to finis," manifest blunders of HIS printer *excepted.* My own printer is not a blunder-maker; but were he so, I should beg leave to correct his errors.

In my opinion, the singularity of this volume gives it a very fair, or indeed a strong, claim to preservation, by a *renewed* impression; and possibly, by due search, *some others* may be found, to which similar attention may be *properly* shewn; without considering such renewals as the addition of lumber to literature, but as *useful* RECORDS of human knavery, impudence, folly, and credulity; or else really important facts that ought *not* to be allowed *to perish.* The bulk of this is not large. The expense of its being re-printed would be small: and possibly *good* may thence be deduced, by its leading men of mind to valuable reflections. Similar good may arise from *other* such *re*-publications: and, for the honour of the faculty, and men of letters generally, in a nation so enlightened, I would hope and believe that neither *this appeal* for SUBSCRIPTIONS, nor any *similar* appeal from any other person, will be made *in vain.*

The Doctor has classed his medicines under TWO *general* denominations, with *specific* and curiously-chosen names. They are 33 in number; 16 in one class, and 17 in the other.

From some of the cases wherein they were administered being the *plague,* and from his speaking of the "last great sickness," it may, *reasonably,* be inferred, that the book was printed between 1666 and 1688, the periods of *the plague* and *the revolution;* and the latter has proved as great a plague to *corrupt* statesmen, as the former did to human existence. But, Politics avaunt, when Quackery's in view!

Taking into view the value of money, *then* and *now,* the PRICES, he affixed to his "*benign* medicines," may be considered as *enormously* high: so that, on this principle, *Doctor Walwyn* may be estimated as the Prince or Chief of Quacks, the *arch*-empiric; and if he had, as he describes, a large sale for the all-healing LIQUIDS, he *must* have realized a large fortune. Whether we have any biographical account of the Doctor, in any volume of biography, or elsewhere, I have yet to learn.

Perhaps, Sirs, some of your intelligent, well-informed readers, may transmit you a sketch of *his* history, family, &c. for insertion in the pages of your Empiric; if you adopt my hint, as I sincerely *hope* you will. In this view, as containing "The *Lives* of the Quacks," *the Empiric* may be useful, in the way of *agreeable* reading.

To prove the exorbitance of his charges, I shall here state the *four* highest in the *first* class, *Medulla, Deliciæ, Stella,* and *Ignis* VITÆ, at 12, 20, 12, and 16 shillings the *pint.* How many ounces the pint contained, we are not informed. If 12, one might suppose it was *rather more* than enough to give him *ample* profit. The price of the whole 16 pints of *this* class, amounts to just 6l. 3s. 8d. This is 3l. 1s. 10d. for a gallon, or above 15s. for a quart, taking the *average* price: more than three times the price of *wine,* and *taxation* added to it. At modern valuation, by comparison of the reigns of *Charles* or *James,* with that of *George* the 4th, surely this may be deemed *enormous* extortion; *exorbitant* avarice: empirical conscience, or pick-pocket practice.

The prices of the second class are given by the ounce; thus *Anima, Athleta, Flamma,* and *Corona* NATURÆ are, 1; 1; 1-3; and 2 shillings, an ounce each: which are two at 12 shillings, one at 15 shillings, for *a pint*, of 12 ounces; and one as high as 24 shillings. The two words VITÆ and NATURÆ distinguish the two classes, of the Doctor's medicines; thus Medulla *Vitæ;* Anima *Naturæ,* &c.

The Doctor's doses are generally *large;* from 3 to 12 spoonfuls, and in several instances as far as 18: and in his 48th page, he has stated that 3 *small* usual spoonfuls are deemed an ounce; and he more often specifies *the dose* by *ounces;* but, for the sake of uniformity, in my Table of Columns to denote names, *doses*, and prices, I have kept solely to spoonfuls; by figures suitable. That table to be printed in the volume.

From the quantity given for a dose it *cannot* be said that the Doctor's medicines contained a large portion of *virtues* in a small compass: and, from the frequent repetition of the doses compared with the prices, it is fairly deducible that his "Physic for Families" was *not* the cheapest plan that *could* be, for the removal of disease.

Even Liverpool *Solomon's* conscience, would be satisfied with less than *Walwyn's* charges. *He* does not charge his credulous patients or nostrum-takers *quite* so high as 3 or 4, or even 8 shillings, for *a dose* of his Cordial Tincture or pretended Balm.

I fear my letter may be too long: but it cannot be contracted *much*, without injury by mutilation; therefore pardon me this *first* time. I design *one* more letter, and only one. That shall not be so diffuse. Possibly I may give the Table in that letter, instead of in the volume; but the appearance of a second letter will much depend on *the disposition manifested* to come forth, promptly and liberally, with subscription-aid, from the Faculty and others. Subscribers *names* to be printed *at full length*, or *by initials*, if so given; or *not at all*, if objected to; but permission is here *requested, as a favour;* with strong hope of *non*-denial.

I rely, Gentlemen, on *your* kindness to receive the names of subscribers and the money, *for my use*, to print the volume; and, as some additional inducement, to the Faculty and others to stand forth as patrons of the design to please them, they have here an assurance of *two* facts.

First, that if, from a *full list* of subscribers, as herein requested, there should remain a few pounds *surplus, after* all *expences* be defrayed, the money will be very useful to a man in my circumstances, being in *much* want of that article, for *requisites*, not luxuries: and

Secondly, no more copies shall be taken, unless by fraud, than precisely equal to the names of Subscribers, and 18 extra: 11 for Stationers' Hall, 1 for the Editors, and six for presents, to private friends.

But, if the expences be cleared, even though not a shilling profit to myself, the volume shall be *immediately* printed. In case of so scanty aid, the names of friends will not be annexed, nor will a single note be added, nor *my concluding remarks;* but the volume alone, verbatim, from beginning to end. Gentlemen in the country can give the money to their neighbours in the bookselling trade, who will remit it to their agents in town; and, by them, copies be duly forwarded to the country subscribers.

My opinion, in reference to this appeal, is, that it *will succeed;* and

also, that scarcely one subscriber would regret the sum bestowed; especially as being so small in amount.

This said, nothing remains but the signature.

I am, Sir, respectfully,

EMPIRICO-MASTIX.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

"In the progress of perusing *Dr. Walwyn's* Manual of Diseases and their Cures, more pleasure, was, occasionally, derived from *his* remarks, (a strange medley of vanity, arrogance, sympathy, and apparent benevolence) than I can well-describe.

"They who shall possess the volume, for such use, will probably experience similar sensations from the same cause.

"When the employment of time, in that way, was completed, inferences immediately ensued, as consequential effects of such direction of the mental faculties, and they were nearly in the following style of expression, from the tongue, as now put upon paper."

The above extract is the outset of my "Concluding Remarks," intended to be attached to the re-printed volume, on the condition stated in the following pledge of *Honour*, to give concluding Remarks.

I here give a solemn declaration and promise, that, *at the end of the volume*, I will advance some arguments, in the form of *queries* at first, and then followed by *affirmations* of the demonstrative kind; which shall be both novel and important, and likely to excite public attention.

The *matter* contained in them, shall be of so much real importance to public welfare, from the present to the most remote period of time, as to afford ample compensation for imperfections and defects in the *manner* of bringing them forward. But they shall not be wholly deficient in suitable energies of expression and proprieties of sentiment; nor void of points of interest suitable to call forth warm and lively feelings in the heart, and to give an impulse to minds rightly disposed for deeds of benevolence and true patriotic zeal for public good.

If they should happen to have the good fortune to find patrons in a few leading men of science, aided by rank and opulence, then, in a *short* time, the PLAN therein advised will be placed in a state of ostensible practical beneficence, and much *general* good will be the result of thus re-publishing a small volume about quack-medicines and quackery.

By no method could the arguments be urged with *so much* force and propriety as when thus attached to such a re-publication; because the volume contains the *data* whereon the arguments are founded. They originated from that source, and therewith ought to appear.

The queries and arguments shall not be of that insipid kind which a person may read *once*, smile at with pleasure or contempt, and be forgotten almost as soon as the book be out of hand; but they shall make a strong impression, and the reader shall *think* and *talk* of them afterwards, if he have but common sense and an ordinary share of the love of virtue, or a bias to goodness.

They shall be bold, public-spirited, and purely independent; calculated to please a considerable number, of the judicious and benevolent readers, and to irritate and offend not a few, of the base, the sordid, and self-interested. They shall have several *good tendencies*; such as may

be thus briefly expressed here:—to promote the HEALTH of *the people*, of all classes: to increase the honour of that part of the Faculty who really deserve honour; at the same time valuable to statesmen for views and purposes of political economy. With suggestions relative to a method, simple and easy and adapted to augment *national honour*, for the speedy annihilation of the far greater part of, if not all, the *noxious* empirical practice, by ignorant impostors and *nostrum*-venders; and also to prevent much injury in the cure, or attempt at the cure, of diseases, by too many *regular* practitioners; occasioned by, want of skill, youth, rashness, and inexperience.

Patients shall be relieved, if relief be practicable; and the Faculty, as men of feeling, freed from much mental anxiety, and from unmerited obloquy; from the wantonness of invidious cavillers, and from the malice of those evil-disposed minds who delight in slander.

But this Pledge of Concluding Remarks is not considered as *irrevocable*, *unless* the subscription for the volume be such, or the friends so numerous, as to induce the publication of a printed list of subscribers' names.

That it will be so, the Author has very *little* doubt; but they who subscribe not, shall never, during his life, have a copy of a second edition, if a second should be called for, at LESS price, *new*, than 3 shillings.

The *first hundred* SUBSCRIBERS, Members of the *Medical* Profession, will have a small printed present from the Editor, which no other subscribers can have. If they live in the country, the post shall convey it to them, in a franked letter, as soon as 100 have subscribed. If in town, it shall be left at their respective places of residence. Probably the perusal will please them.

The Editors of the Gazette hope to have the satisfaction of announcing in their *next* Number, the receipt of *many* subscriptions for their correspondent, *Empirico-Mastix*, or as E. M.; and the still further satisfaction in the Number following that, of being then able to state, that the requisite number of 250 have arrived, and that the volume is in the hands of the printer.

They have *not seen* it. Delicacy would not allow them to ask what E. M., perhaps prudentially, chose not to offer for their inspection; but they know enough of him, from a few personal interviews, by conversation and manner, to justify them fully in declaring, that his appeal for subscriptions is *worthy* of *medical* patronage more especially: but not confining it to the faculty, the clergy, and other men of literary pursuits, in ease and opulence, will probably find pleasure in affording their respective contributions to E. M.—It is from a desire to assist, *apparently*, a worthy man of letters, that they have consented to oblige him by ready compliance, with *the request in his letter*, to receive subscriptions for him, at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly. E. M. has, in his letter, pointed out to gentlemen in the country how to convey to him their subscriptions by the booksellers. They are assured of his integrity. He wants not the money from us till the book be fairly *put in hand*; and he is desirous that it may be done with all possible promptitude, on account of a wish to bring forward his own concluding remarks, subjoined to the letter we have inserted from his pen. That

letter will convince every reader of it, that he understands well the art of combining thoughts into visible form. His style is clear and energetic, written with much apparent fluency and ease.

Indeed they can say, from his oral language, and from private epistolary communications, that he is critically conversant with the niceties of *English* phraseology; and not unacquainted with *Latin* and *Greek*. He appears to be, as many literary men are, *somewhat* singular in his manners; but no affected singularities. They seem to be unconscious neglect of some of those attractive ways which Chesterfield so often inculcated to his son, by "the graces, the graces, remember the graces;" the effect, probably, of much seclusion from the world in studious pursuits. Such a man ought not to be neglected by men professionally devoted to, and fond of, habits of study in matters of art and science. Hence they wish warmly success to his appeal for subscriptions.

Briefly, and finally for the present, respecting E. M. He candidly admitted his past neglect of self-interest; and avowed his determination to be more attentive to it in future.——They think, that he will shortly surmount the errors of past negligence, and attain sudden and deserved celebrity for the productions of his pen. He has a forthcoming poem, which seems likely to excite considerable public attention IF the execution be equal to the design. He shewed to them a manuscript of more than 1600 lines, as he said; and read a few lines from the outset, sufficient to convince them of his possessing great facility in the art of versification, but want of leisure to attend to the visions of a poetic fancy, prevented them from being able to say more of the poem, or the poet, except to refer readers to his advertisement, entitled, "The Glossokan Project, or a Challenge to Critics."

STOUGHTON'S GRAND ELIXIR, an infallible remedy "for hypochondriac vapours in men and women, fits, sinking of the spirits, faintness, trembling, melancholy, foul breath, unsavoury eructations, the bile, gripes, worms in children and others, scurvy, *calenture*, dropsy, jaundice, flux, sickness, dulness of the brain, &c. &c." On the death of the proprietor of this "Great Cordial Elixir," the receipt became the property of a Mr. C. R. Weller, who, in his public address, states that he *now* prepares it according to the original directions. From the most *disinterested* and *humane* motive, he cautions the public against the "*Gross* impositions of several chemists, druggists, and venders of medicines, who have been so base and audacious as to counterfeit it. Having ascertained this infamous or villanous traffic, (which generally prevails, to the great injury of his Majesty's liege subjects,) viz. of counterfeiting valuable remedies, to be felony, he has resolved to prosecute those unprincipled wretches, whom he may detect in counterfeiting his Great Cordial Elixir. The spurious sort being made with wormwood, he has ascertained to be hot and drying, and consequently capable of *injuring the sight, dulling the brain, drying up the blood,* and *hindering vigour* and *sprightliness!!*" "The *Genuine* Elixir," says he, "on the contrary, disposes much to briskness and liveliness; it having the *quintessence* of *all* the ingredients of the *bitter draughts* in it, (without nauseousness,) with many other excellent *stomachics, alexipharmics,* and *antiscorbutics,* brought into so small a quantity that 50 or 60 drops is a dose!!"

The Genuine Elixir, the *learned* gentleman states, contains no less than six *peculiar* virtues—viz.:

1. "It procures a strong appetite, by strengthening or *stoutening* the stomach.

2. "It *rectifies* the stomach, *from* almost whatever cause disturbed, &c.

3. "It *procures* a sweet breath.

4. "It is so perfectly innocent that a few drops may be given with the *greatest* safety to an infant, *in the mouth*, for the bile or gripe!!

5. "It preserves from infection in *corrupt* air, or contagious distempers, by keeping the blood in an *even temper*, and will not suffer it to stagnate, corrupt, or putrefy!!

6. "It is the best medicine in the world for the scurvy, especially attending seamen, proceeding from *thick foggy air, gross feeding, or hardship*, for it *opens* ALL obstructions or stoppages whatever and wheresoever, causing a *free* circulation of the blood, and *mightily* purifies the same!!"

For all travellers he declares it to be as necessary "to carry with them as their daily food."—If it were "more taken in the armies *abroad* and our fleets *at sea* for the *calenture*, *dropsy*, *jaundice*, *flux*, *gripes*, &c., he is convinced that many thousands of lives would be saved, for it saved the lives of many persons on board the ships at Jamaica, where seven or eight died in less than twenty-four hours after being seized, and it stopped the sickness in the north some time ago, where it was much drank."—The dose is "from two to three spoonsful more or less, as *you please*, in a glass of *spring water*, *beer*, *ale*, *tea*, *cyder*, *white wine*, *brandy*, or in ANY liquor in the morning *fasting*, about an hour before dinner, and any other time of the day as *occasion* may require." For the *benefit* of the public, he adds, "The *genuine* Elixir is sold by Messrs. Godfrey and Cooke, of Southampton Street, and other *respectable* Venders of Medicines!!"

On examining this Nostrum of six virtues, (six less than the *Cardiac* Tincture of our worthy *Cordial* friend Dr. Rymer) we find it to be an infusion of gentian root and Seville orange peel, with a good proportion of alcohol. That two teaspoonsful of such a paltry medicine, not differing from the common gin-shop bitters, should in a glass of brandy or wine "dispose the body to briskness and liveliness," is certainly not very astonishing. When the learned Proprietor recommends such a stimulant in brandy or wine, three times a day, for "dropsy and jaundice," we presume he means that it is *good* for *producing* those diseases.—We perfectly agree with the benevolent Proprietor, that the Chemists, or Druggists, or Venders of Medicine, who have been so depraved as to imitate this medicine, are a set of infamous impostors, and merit the severest punishment, and more especially if they should dare to copy his directions for its exhibition, without the very proper *nota bene*, "*Keep it always well corked.*"

It is a well known fact that the drinkers of ale or spirits, with a bitter tincture, vulgarly named bitters, (a few years since a very *fashionable* practice with the Irish Ladies employed in Covent Garden, and coal-heavers) uniformly die of diseased bowels or lungs, and those who accustom themselves to the regular use of an intense bitter, even without a spirit, seldom live long.

All powerful bitters, such as gentian, quassia, and calumba, are in fact slow poisons, and should be taken only as a medicine in cases of debility of the digestive organs, and never continued longer than a month, when it generally begins to produce a deleterious effect on the stomach. The practice of taking a bitter to counteract the pernicious effects of a spirit, is, therefore, most assuredly bad. It is, using a vulgar expression, adding fuel to fire. The only effectual corrective of spirituous liquors is water. To invigorate the stomach after an abuse of wine or spirits, an *astringent* bitter medicine is often necessary, such as the Peruvian bark or Rhatany root, but in such cases an intense bitter, such as gentian, or the "*great Cordial Elixir*," of *Dr.* Stoughton, will afford only temporary relief, in consequence of being very slightly astringent.

Of all the popular remedies, none have proved more injurious than the cordial or stimulating stomachics. Indigestion, from which very few, after the age of forty, are exempt, arises from very opposite causes, and is generally a symptomatic affection. It is frequently the consequence of increased irritability of the stomach, or what Mr. Abernethy has termed, a feverish state of that organ; in which case, stimulating or cordial medicines are always productive of serious mischief, by producing organic disease of the stomach, generally of that part which is technically termed the Pylorus. More lives have been destroyed by the imprudent use of stomachic bitters and cordials, than by the sword. We therefore advise purchasers of the Grand Cordial Stomachic Elixir, strictly to attend to the advice of the Proprietor, "*To keep it always well corked.*"

DR. SYDENHAM'S PILLS OF HEALTH.—The Proprietor of these Pills, a Mr. Rees, *Bookseller of Bristol*, declares them to be "a remedy superior to *any* medicine yet discovered for *loss* of appetite, head ache, noises in the head, lowness of spirits, heartburn, flatulence, and *obstructed* digestion, together with ALL affections of the liver, *bilious* and nervous disorders, &c. &c. ! !"

The eminent Dr. Sydenham, who fortunately for the human race, discovered this wonderful remedy, "found them particularly beneficial in bilious affections, either when they occasion flatulence, spasm, pains in the stomach, &c. &c. or produce nausea, vertigo, and headache."

That the public may not be imposed upon by counterfeits, the proprietor writes his name on the stamp of each box, to imitate which, is, in his opinion, felony, of the blackest kind.—The pills, he says, are "countenanced by the first medical characters of the *present* day, and families of exalted rank; that being composed entirely of vegetables, they are so *mild and gentle* that the most respectable Boarding Schools *constantly* use them." To persons "going to, or residing in hot climates, they are particularly recommended, *because* they retain their virtues in any situation *under* the globe." He recommends them to be "taken *after* dinner, to assist digestion, or on going to bed."

On examining this wonderful Promoter of Health, we find it to be composed of aloes, myrrh, jalap, rhubarb, gamboge, and oil of carraway seeds. The assertion that the composition is entirely vegetable, is therefore true; but that, on this account, it is "mild and gentle," we deny. Aloes combined with gamboge, jalap and myrrh, form a

very powerful purgative medicine, and in acute diseases of the liver, morbid excitement of the stomach, and organic affections of the rectum, is capable of doing much serious mischief. To the free use of aloetic purgatives may be attributed the formidable and very distressing organic diseases of the rectum which of late years have very considerably increased in this country.

Piles and excrescences about the anus are very common consequences of nostrums which contain aloes, such as the Scotch Pills, Hooper's Pills, Barclay's Pills, as well as Dr. Sydenham's Pills of Health. Such a composition as the latter taken a few minutes after a meal, is unquestionably more likely to disturb than promote the process of digestion.

No such a composition was ever recommended by the "eminent Dr. Sydenham;" and from our knowledge of his practice, we have no hesitation in saying that the learned proprietor might with equal propriety have ascribed the "fortunate discovery" to Dr. Baillie, Lord Sidmouth, or Betty Martin. The proprietor has published several testimonies in favour of the pills, as a remedy in cases of giddiness, head-ache, bilious attacks, &c. to recommend them to the attention of the public. The similarity of the style leads us strongly to suspect that they were all written by the same person. That we may not unjustly accuse the proprietor of having had recourse to so disreputable a practice, (very common with Advertisers of nostrums) we shall be greatly obliged to any subscriber in Bristol, to inform us if the following persons are living, or ever did live in Bristol;—viz. John Manners, portrait painter, Bridge Parade, Bristol.—J. Cousins, Rosemary-lane, Bristol.—M. Laugdon, Upper Easton, Bristol.—M. Goodchild, No. 4, Water-street, Bristol.—A. Chalone, Park-street, Bristol.

As to the assertion that the pills are countenanced by "medical men of respectability," we defy the proprietor to produce the name of one, who has or would recommend such a paltry composition for the cure, relief, or prevention of any disease. The nostrum was first brought forward in opposition to the celebrated "Vegetable Life Pills of *Parson* Carrington," (the receipt of which was transferred to Messrs. Barry and Co., booksellers of Bristol), under the title of "Family Pills of Health," and the name of Dr. Sydenham has been very lately added to the Pills of Health, to give the discovery a degree of importance equal to that the Life Pills receive, from the name of a gentleman who is not only a clergyman of the Established Church, but also deputy-lieutenant of the county of Gloucester!! The composition of the Life Pills we have already noticed. That a clergyman should allow his name to appear as a promoter of a trade, which has been productive of such misery among his fellow creatures, is to us a matter of no little astonishment. The contents of a four-shilling box of Dr. Sydenham's Pills of Health cost the proprietor about two-pence.

DOCTOR SIMMONS's RHEUMATIC and SCURVY PILLS, *an infallible remedy for rheumatic gout and scurvy, the king's evil, leprosy, piles, and asthmas, coughs, fits, dropsy, gravel, head-aches, lowness of spirits, indigestion, wind, loss of appetite, bilious, and sour vomiting, heartburn, dysentery, obstructions of the viscera, dropsical bad legs:*

These pills are made by the proprietor, a Dr. Simmons of Buckingham-st.

who asserts, in his *practical* dissertation on their numerous wonderful healing powers, that "many persons can testify, who have been afflicted with the above diseases, in various parts of England, of several years standing, and who have been turned out *incurable from different* hospitals, their infallibility." The *learned* Doctor adds, for the *benefit* of the afflicted, that "He may be consulted upon *any* disorder, and at *any* time at his residence, and pledges *himself*, to give the *greatest* satisfaction, as the trials of his medicines will evince; and of this benevolent offer, "Invalids residing at a distance, may avail themselves by letter, enclosing a *small* fee."

From the innumerable cases of persons cured by the pills, he has made a selection for a *small handbill.*" These, he states, he has taken from the list of cures his pills have effected in his own neighbourhood. "*That* EVERY *person may know the cures are authentic, and who wish to make public their names, for the* GOOD *of mankind, that labour under the like afflictions!!*"

Bernard Hales, engineer, of Pitfield-Street, Old-Street Road, was cured of an abscess *in his* chest, and likewise in *his* side; he had been (of course) attended by *several* of the *most eminent physicians and surgeons in London;* ALL THEIR *art availed nothing.* This case was at length pronounced *incurable,* and a fatal termination appeared to be inevitable." Fortunately for this patient, and for the Doctor's reputation, a *friend* acquainted him with the inestimable virtues of the Scurvy Pills. "He procured a box, which, by the blessing of the Almighty, snatched him from the brink of eternity!!" A *gentleman,* residing at No. 5, Buckingham-Street, the Doctor cured of a "*paralytic stroke.*" On the wives of a Mr. Collier, a baker of Clipstone-Street, and of Mr. Pittfield, of George-Street, "he performed the *most astonishing* cures." Isaac Penny, a baker of Queen-Street, Hoxton Market, was cured of an *abscess* in a *finger!* and about 42 invalids, besides those residing in different parts of London, whose maladies were considered incurable, the Doctor restored to *perfect* health!! A gentleman on whose veracity the most implicit confidence may be placed, informs us that although the learned Doctor has given the residence of the persons whom he has cured, he has not been able to discover one of them, and what is still more extraordinary, he has not met with a person in any of the streets, who had heard of the names either of the Doctor or his patients. This correspondent observes, if the Doctor's medicines had effected such extraordinary cures, which he has published in his handbills, his reputation would have been so established throughout the country, as to render any further distribution of handbills unnecessary. The case is, that when a patient survives the use of a nostrum, the proprietor considers the circumstance as wonderful as a cure. This gentleman further states, that he has ascertained, that of all the cases of cures advertised by the leading proprietors of nostrums, of the present day, that 499 in every 500 are fabricated.

The dose of the Scurvy Pills is, from "one to seven, twice a week." They operate gently as an aperient. The patients are desired to make no difference in their diet, for the better they live with this medicine the sooner they will get a cure!! "The *more effect,*" says he, "it takes, the more you will find relief, and the *sooner* it is taken the better for the patient!!"

On examining this very fortunate discovery for the human race and for

Dr. Simmons especially, we find it to be composed of lenitive electuary and jalap!!! The contents of a 2s. 9d. box cost the humane Doctor about a penny.—Such is the composition of a nostrum, which the proprietor declares "to have baffled the judgment of medical men for the *great* cures it has done in disorders of *many* years standing, having restored patients to health, who had been turned out of the London hospitals incurable, and others who had been under the care of the first physicians and surgeons in London!!!" The Doctor has very properly termed his nostrum "*Scurvy* Pills," and with equal propriety his dupes may, no doubt, term his practice.

CHEMICAL MATCHES.—The matches sold under this name, are made by covering the end of a thin slip of deal with the oxymuriate of potash, sulphuret of quicksilver, &c. made into a very thin paste with mucilage of gum arabic, in the following proportions:

Take of Oxymuriate of potash, finely powdered, two drachms;
Sulphuret of mercury, a scruple;
Camphor powdered, ten grains;
Arrow-root jelly, a sufficient quantity to form a paste of such a consistency, that the ends of the slips of deal, on being dipped into it, may be thinly covered. The deal should be well dried, and in order that the fire may be communicated to the wood, the ends, previously to their being covered with the above composition, should be immersed for about half an hour in the oil of turpentine, and not dipped till the surface is dry.

The sulphuret of mercury is employed only as a colour. On using those matches only one-third of the covered end should be immersed into the sulphuric acid, to ignite it. If the whole be introduced, or the acid be also applied to the wood, the fire will cease on the covered end being consumed. The immersion should also be very quick.

AMULETS.—The amulets sold under this name are composed of gum myrrh, benzoin, opoponax, elemi, musk, orris powder, oil of cloves, essence of roses, and balsam of Tolu and Peru, formed into cakes.

NOSTRUMS FOR GOUT.—A proprietor of an infallible remedy for gout, a few weeks ago, died suddenly after taking a dose of his own nostrum. The event was considered so much a matter of course, that the coroner was not troubled on the occasion. Notwithstanding this fatal effect of the remedy, it is still industriously advertised as a certain specific for the gout!! In the proprietor's case it certainly manifested great specific powers, for in the course of a few hours it effectually terminated the gouty paroxysms and the patient's worldly concerns for ever. "Sic transit gloria mundi!" A Mr. Fuller, of Islington, also died a few hours after taking a powder advertised by an unprincipled quack, as an infallible cure for the gout!!

ICE.—Mr. T. Grothuss has published the following simple and speedy method of congealing water: "Into a metal vase half filled with water, I poured very gently an equal quantity of ether, so that no mixture might take place of the two liquids. The vase was placed under the receiver of an air-pump, which was so fixed upon its support as to remain quite steady when the air was pumped out. At the first strokes of the piston, the ether became in a state of ebullition; it was evaporated totally in less than a minute, and the water remained converted into ice. I made this experiment for the first time at Mittau, in an apartment, the temperature of which was 16° R."

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 64. To APRIL 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

OF LIVING BIOGRAPHY.

We find that some practitioners, members of that class which claims an exclusive right to the title of *regular* physicians, and who have no relish for "*living medical* Biography," have been very active in propagating a report, that in giving sketches of medical men, we have been actuated by the most unworthy motives—that we have indulged in the most scurrilous abuse of some, under the idea that we might succeed to their practice, and that we have been very handsomely remunerated for the favourable sketches we have given of others. Of late years, in consequence of the stationary state of medicine at the English universities,—the conduct of the College of Physicians towards the graduates of the Scotch universities in refusing to admit them members of their institution, under the pretext of inferiority of education and judgment,—the progress of medical or constitutional surgery, and the authority granted by the legislature to apothecaries to visit patients at the bed-side, and to prescribe for their maladies, the whole profession is in that confused state, that the public are really at a loss to whom they should apply in case of formidable disease, to obtain the most able advice. In the list of the college we have fellows, candidates, inceptor candidates, licentiates and extra-licentiates; we have practisers in medicine, surgeons, surgeon apothecaries, and apothecaries. The graduates of Oxford and Cambridge style themselves regular physicians, and insinuate that those of the Scotch universities are qualified only to prescribe in simple cases of *disease*, and on this account, the college [illegible]ely grants them licences; and as to the practitioner, who received his education at the London hospitals, and possesses an *honorary* diploma, he is represented by the college members to be a most dangerous Quack. They also discountenance the attendance of surgeons, surgeon-apothecaries, and apothecaries, in *medical* cases. The graduates of Edinburgh contend that they received their education at the first medical school in Europe, that they passed an examination in medicine *before* the degree of M. D. was conferred on them, and therefore are as well, if not better qualified to discharge the important duties of a physician as the graduates of Oxford or Cambridge, which are not proper schools of medicine, and where a degree of M. D. is granted, after keeping a certain number of terms, without any examination in medicine. The physicians who possess honorary diplomas, assert that they are acquainted with every branch of medicine, that they were educated in the schools of surgery and pharmacy, at the first hospitals in the world, and by the first teachers; and they have also had the advantage of experience, of which the graduates of the English or Scotch universities cannot boast. The surgeon, the surgeon-apothecary, and the apothecary, also contend that they have had the same advantages as the latter practitioners; and that, with respect to their medical education and practical knowledge of diseases, they consider themselves as capable of undertaking the treatment of diseases as those who possess academical honours.

The apothecary asserts that the physician who is not acquainted with pharmacy and chemistry, is not qualified to *prescribe* medicines, whilst the surgeon-apothecary declares that a knowledge of surgery is as necessary as that of chemistry and pharmacy to form a physician. That the physician, acquainted with surgery, in consequence of his superior knowledge of natural and morbid anatomy, is more likely to attack diseases judiciously, and to discover their lurking places. To acquaint the public with the real state of medicine, and with the qualifications of different practitioners, we conceived that it was necessary to give a biographical sketch of the different members, and in doing this, we have confined ourselves, as much as possible, to their professional education and acquirements. The only interest we have had in view was that of the community, and we are happy in having it in our power to state, that we never received, either directly or indirectly, an application from a practitioner to speak favorably of him. If such an insulting request had been made, we should certainly have noticed it in our Journal. Had we been actuated by interested motives in conducting this part of our Journal, we should certainly have followed the example of the author of a late publication, "Authentic Memoirs of eminent Medical Men," in praising all, to induce them to send their prescriptions, and otherwise patronise the *Medical Hall*, in Piccadilly, with which, it is well known, we are connected. Many chemists and apothecaries have amassed great wealth by recommending and flattering the vanity of leading physicians. A trader in drugs, who styled himself a chemist and druggist, in the neighbourhood of the Strand, obtained a very high character for genuine drugs, and correctness in compounding prescriptions, by sending the fashionable physicians of the day a haunch of venison every three months, and sometimes oftener, according as the prescriptions came in. He also got a good character among all the members of the college, by placing in the most conspicuous part of his shop, the printed college list. The arrow root was brought into fashion, as a nutritious article of diet for children, by means of haunches of venison, before its qualities were properly ascertained. This article was first introduced into this country as a substitute for starch, when wheat was very dear. The crafty dealer in drugs, knowing the influence of haunches of venison, purchased the whole stock, at the rate of one shilling a pound, which, through venison influence and flattery, was soon sold at the moderate price of eight shillings a pound.—As to practice, all who know us, are aware that we have hitherto sacrificed it, by devoting so much time to this and other works.

Besides acquainting the public with the state of medicine, we have done no small service to junior practitioners, by pointing out the progress and circumstances which have led to pre-eminence, and affording them models for imitation. To teach, at the same time, what they should avoid, it was necessary to notice the failings of character, as well as their perfections. Living biography, we allow, is a subject of great delicacy, and however impartially given, must subject us to the charge of invidiousness.—It is therefore our intention to discontinue our biographical sketches. Indeed, those we have given, are sufficient to answer our object. In our next, we, therefore, purpose to sum up the evidence they afford, that our readers may be enabled to deter-

mine for themselves, whether we have been actuated by selfish views or by a desire to benefit the community.

HOOPING COUGH, &c. &c.—For the following cases of affections of the lungs, cured by the vapour of tar, we are indebted to Surgeon Wansbrough of Fulham. A fine healthy child, twelve months old, was violently attacked with symptoms of hooping cough. The paroxysms were so severe as to threaten suffocation. The disease had existed nearly six weeks, when Mr. Wansbrough first saw her. Inflammation of the lungs had then supervened. The child refused the breast, and was exceedingly restless and uneasy from difficulty of breathing. Mr. W. ordered the warm bath, and three leeches to be applied to the pit of the stomach, purged her briskly, and continued the use of an expectorant and an antimonial sudorific. In the course of twenty-four hours from his first visit, a considerable amendment was evident. This active treatment closed with a blister to the chest, after which the inflammatory state of the system soon subsided. The paroxysms of the cough, nevertheless, were still violent, though the frequency of them declined with the concomitant symptoms. In short, the little patient appeared likely to conquer this formidable foe; when unfortunately, she was accidentally exposed to a current of air, which produced an aggravation of the cough. On the following morning, when Mr. W. saw her, he determined on applying the vapour of tar, the absence of inflammatory symptoms warranting the application. The shortness and difficulty of breathing being apparently the consequence of a loaded state of the bronchia with mucus, Mr. W. thought that such a topical application was most likely to afford immediate relief. He accordingly decomposed a portion of Barbadoes tar, by dipping into it the end of a common poker made hot. The child was then held over the vapour, as it arose, so that she might not inhale it until it was sufficiently diluted by the atmospheric air. The patient no sooner inhaled this gaseous compound, than she exhibited manifest signs of relief. Instead of attempting to avoid the volume of vapour as it arose from the vessel, she willingly breathed it, and suffered the tar to be placed almost under her nostrils. The effect was conspicuous in relieving the pressure under which the little sufferer laboured: expectoration became free and copious. In short, after six exposures to its influence, the cough almost ceased; and without the aid of any auxiliary, the child recovered.

Mr. W. states, that he has since experienced the heartfelt satisfaction of preserving, by the same means, from threatened destruction, *his own child,* an infant three months old. Accidental exposure to cold produced catarrh; the breathing was short and difficult, attended with sensible accumulation in the air tubes of the lungs, which the child was unable to expectorate. The symptoms increased rapidly. There did not exist any other excitement than the difficulty of respiration. The distress of the infant excited feelings in his breast, of which a parent only can form an idea. He had already lost one child from hooping cough, in which the vapour of tar was not thought of: another fell a victim to watery head; and this last appeared hastening to form an addition to the number. From her birth she was delicate. Leeches were inadmissible; not only because of the absence of active inflamma-

tion, but also from the apprehension of depleting a system already in a very debilitated state. Emetics and expectorants were unavailing; a blister he deemed inadmissible, from the supposition that it would increase the general irritation. Under these conflicting circumstances, Mr. W. had recourse to the warm bath; but the agitation it occasioned obliged him to abandon it. At length, nearly worn out with fatigue and suffering, at the end of three days, the poor little sufferer *refused the breast*, when Mr. W. was apprehensive the complaint would soon terminate fatally. At this crisis, he had recourse to *tar vapour*, as mentioned in the former case. He first applied it at a distance, whilst the child lay in the mother's arms, breathing quick and short, with frequent interruption, from what appeared to be accumulation of mucus in the bronchia. The infant seemed revived the instant she inhaled the vapour, and made an effort to cough. Delighted at this effect, he placed the vessel nearer to her nostrils, and continued the fume for about three minutes, when a cough intervened, followed by an immediate vomiting of viscid phlegm and mucus. The quantity evacuated from the lungs and stomach was very considerable. Complete exhaustion for about a minute succeeded; and, to his inexpressible joy, the little patient took the breast heartily, and sunk into a profound sleep, which lasted two hours. She awoke refreshed, and considerably relieved. Encouraged by this unexpected and happy success, he continued the application of the vapour for a week, twice in the day; when, from the decided remission of symptoms, he discontinued it. The first six applications were succeeded, each time, by a copious expectoration, which always ended in an abatement of the previous symptoms.

About a month ago, the child again took cold, when the difficulty of breathing returned, attended by wheezing and cough. Recourse was again had to the same remedy, the first application of which afforded relief, by producing sickness, and a copious expectoration of phlegm and mucus. The second application was not so successful; symptoms of an inflammatory type supervening, with fever. The child being now six months old, and considerably mended in constitution, he exhibited antimonials, and applied a blister to the chest. The febrile symptoms remitted, and an amendment followed. The support which the mother had afforded now declined, both in quantity and quality; and he was necessitated to adopt another source of nourishment, but through the same medium, viz. the breast. Change of air, at the same time, has, in conjunction with her nourishment, happily restored the infant to the anxious hopes of her parents. After the subsidence of the inflammatory action, the vapour was applied three or four times, and with confirmed success. The child is now perfectly well, and is gaining flesh.

Master Alfred Wallis, having three months since manifested symptoms of asthma, his father, hearing of the success Mr. W. had experienced in the application of the tar vapour, in affections of the lungs, requested Mr. W. would give it a trial in his case. The father was unwilling that any active measures should be resorted to, the child having recently recovered of incipient phthisis. The state of the little patient was as follows: his breathing oppressed; cough frequent and violent, *without any* expectoration; each paroxysm produced suffusion of the eyes, and florid countenance. His rest was much disturbed by

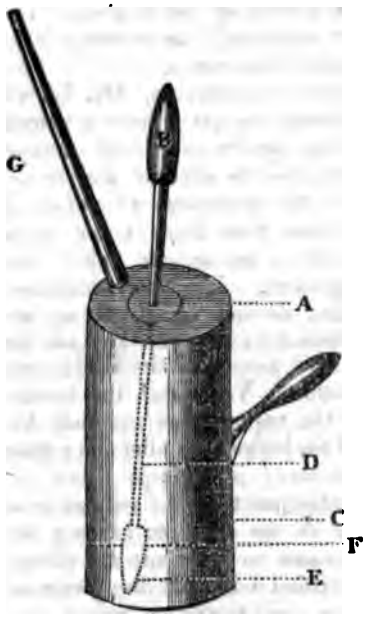
the cough. The air tubes of the lungs were evidently much loaded with mucus. Desirous of giving the vapour a fair trial in this case, which was more closely allied to the class of pulmonary affections, in which it appeared most unequivocally applicable, Mr. W. commenced the operation, and his patient inhaled the vapour, diluted as in the two former instances, from the 14th of August to the 23d of September, regularly; then every other day, and finally ceased on the 28th of October. The first eight or ten inhalations produced powerful action of the lungs; and the quantity of mucus expectorated exceeded belief; and it gradually subsided, whilst the lungs seemed to expand, under the influence of the new atmosphere. The patient went *voluntarily*, during the whole period, as he used to say, "to get rid of the phlegm." It is remarkable that the child gained flesh whilst under this treatment. Not a single medicine was exhibited to him, Mr. W. being determined to witness the unassisted effects of the vapour. He is now quite well; and when he has any "wheezing," as he terms it, a dose of tar vapour seems effectually to remove the cause.

On the result of these experiments, Mr. W. observes, "It may, I presume, be inferred, from the cases here adduced, that the efficacy of carburetted hydrogen, produced in the manner I have detailed, possesses decided advantages in chronic and in recent cases of pulmonic affections, before the accession of active inflammatory symptoms. In the few cases that have come under my observation, wherein I have applied it, *immediate* relief and ultimate benefit have accrued to the patient. The only instance of failure I have experienced, was in the second attack of my own child: there, I candidly confess, my former success rendered me blind to the existence of active symptoms, until I perceived them increased by the stimulating nature of the application. Yet, after the inflammatory action was removed, the effect of the vapour was certainly beneficial: so that, it appears, in cases where the lungs are under the influence of inflammation, the exhibition of this remedy is improper; but in *chronic* pulmonary affections, and also subsequent to the existence of increased arterial action, I have no doubt of the superior efficacy of this gaseous compound. I will not presume to enter into any thing like a *rationale* of its qualities; I am satisfied with offering *facts*, with such comments merely as arise from a due consideration of the importance of the subject; feeling, as I do, that many children may be yet saved from premature death, by the adoption of this simple, yet powerful remedy, even by the parents themselves. Should I be so fortunate as to stimulate, by my humble efforts, one individual to a successful application of the *Vapour of Barbadoes Tar*, my object will be attained, and I shall rest satisfied with the result of this communication. The mode of administering the vapour I adopted in the case of Master Wallis, and my own child, which I have since found exceedingly applicable to infants, is simply this.—A vessel of tin, resembling a coffee-pot, contains the tar (the size is immaterial, twelve inches by four will suffice in the generality of cases); a conical tube issuing from the top; a corresponding opening on the opposite side, to allow a draft, that the vapour may ascend. The iron is what may be obtained at any ironmonger's; laundresses use it for what they term the *Italian Iron*. This heater,

being attached to a firm iron rod, terminating in a wooden handle, is altogether eighteen inches in length. The cover or lid of the pot is made to slide on this rod; so that when the heater is made hot, upon being immersed into the tar, the cover fits on and prevents any escape of vapour. The tube of the pot is then kept to the nostril, at the proper distance, that the vapour may be inspired.

Care must be taken that the heater be not red hot, in which case ignition of the tar, attended by an explosion, will happen, and may be of serious consequence. This happened once with me: I therefore caution those who use the remedy, to observe the degree of heat ere the heater be immersed in the tar: neglect of this observance on my part occasioned ignition, and burnt the eyelashes and eyebrows of my little patient Wallis."

The following is a delineation of the instrument:—



A. The cover, which fits into the top when the heater is put into the tar.

B. The wooden handle of the heater.

C. The situation of the opening, above the size of half-a-crown, an inch and a half.

D. The iron rod of the heater.

E. The heater.

F. The height of the tar, beyond which it ought not to rise.

G. The tube, which is eighteen inches long, for the convenience of guiding the apparatus in conveying the vapour.

The inclination of the tube from the plane of the cover may be at pleasure.

Mr. W. observes, that "the exhibition of the vapour never produced vomiting, whenever I have applied it, unless the bronchiæ were loaded

with mucus: and in either case, viz. whether there existed mucus or not, the remedy invariably operated as an anodyne, producing sleep."

THE HOP.—No accurate analysis of the hop having been published, Dr. Ives of New York has made some experiments, with a view to ascertain its component parts, and particularly its medicinal character. On removing a quantity of dried hops from a bag, he discovered at the bottom a fine yellow powder, which he rendered pure by passing it through a fine sieve. This substance, which has been mistaken for *pollen*, is peculiar to the female hop, and the Doctor thinks is secreted by the nectaria. It has been more correctly appreciated by makers of malt liquor, than by men professing a more scientific knowledge of the culture, properties, and use of the hop. The Doctor has not been able to find any notice of this product in books, and not having been able to learn from his botanical friends that any appropriate term has been given to it, he has given it the name *Lupulin*. This article we noticed in the year 1809, in the third volume of the Medical and Surgical Spectator, page 298, under the name of the *farina* of the hop. The following is an extract from our communication: "The farina of the hop may be obtained of hop merchants, who collect it from the floor of their warehouses. It is generally mixed with other matter, from which it may be separated by means of a hair sieve. Of the hop driers it may be procured in considerable quantity, and generally very pure, as they collect it from the bottom of the kilns in which the hops are dried." In the subsequent number, page 362, we recommend the tincture of the farina of the hop, as superior to that of the London Pharmacopœia. On speaking of the fine bitter and aromatic qualities of the farina to a Botanist, he told us that it was the male seed of the hop, and we have therefore recommended the tincture of the hop to be made with the seed, in our translation of the London Pharmacopœia. To our remarks we suspect Dr. Ives is indebted, for his knowledge of the article to which he has given the name of *Lupulin*. Having never prescribed the farina or tincture alone, we cannot speak of their medicinal properties.

From the numerous experiments Dr. Ives has made, it appears that the farina, or lupulin, as he terms it, contains a very "subtile aroma, which is yielded to water and rectified spirit, and rapidly dissipated by a boiling heat; that no essential oil can be detected by distillation on any portion of the hop.—That the *lupulin* contains an extractive matter, which is soluble only in water.—That it contains Tannin, Gallic acid, and a bitter principle, which are soluble in proof spirit.—That it contains resin, which is dissolved by rectified spirit, by ether, and by wax.—That the aromatic and bitter properties of the lupulin are more readily and completely extracted by rectified spirit than by water, and much sooner by both when they are hot than when they are cold."

The Dr. thinks he has satisfactorily ascertained, that the "medicinal virtues of the hop reside exclusively in the lupulin; that the leaves contain a nauseous extractive matter, which is imparted to water and to rectified spirit, and which, instead of adding to the bitter and aromatic flavor of the lupulin, partially neutralizes it." The obvious inference from these results is, that the lupulin is the only part of the hop essential to economical purposes; an inference so little anticipated

by the Doctor, that he considered it an important subject of inquiry, whether that part of the plant has been duly estimated by brewers—whether it has been regarded by writers as preferable to the leaves?—and if so, what impediment, or what consideration has prevented its being separated from the chaff. On making inquiry of several brewers in the city of New York, the Doctor ascertained that there was about one in three who considered the lupulin useful in common with other parts of the plant. It was known to all that hops were used principally for preserving beer from becoming acid, but neither practical brewers, nor scientific writers on brewing, appear to have noticed this substance. By some of the former it is regarded as useless. When at one brewery, the Doctor asked for some of the yellow powder found at the bottom of the hop bags, he was told that they could find but little there, having a few days ago thrown away near half a bushel of it.

The Doctor resolved to ascertain, if possible, the proportion of lupulin in the merchantable hop, and also whether it could be completely and readily separated from the leaves. Accordingly, six pounds of pressed hops were taken from the centre of a bag containing some hundred pounds, and exposed to a gentle heat till perfectly dry. They were then put into a light bag, and by rubbing and sifting, fourteen ounces of the pure powder were separated, with very little labour. On the virtues of lupulin, as a medicine, the Doctor is very brief, in consequence of his intention of giving it a further trial. The hop has been held in great estimation by some practitioners of eminence, as a remedy for irritative indigestion, or indigestion arising from morbid excitement of the stomach; to which gouty subjects, gluttons, and inebriates are liable. In France it is used as a tonic medicine, in cases of indigestion and scrofula. In America it has been most valued for its narcotic powers; and in cases of nervous excitement and mania, where opium is inadmissible, it often succeeds in procuring sleep. The most common preparation is a saturated tincture of the strobiles. To this preparation there are two important objections; firstly, to give a dose capable of producing sleep, the quantity of rectified spirits is necessarily so great as to do injury to the patient; secondly, when given in large doses, it frequently produces nausea, and sometimes vomiting. The first of these objections, Dr. Ives observes, requires no proof; and the second, he says, is confirmed by his own observation, and by the experiments of Dr. Bryorley, in a dissertation on the hop. The last effect Dr. Ives attributes to the extractive matter in the leaves (strobiles), for he has never seen it produced by the *lupulin*. He has prescribed the lupulin in substance, the infusion, decoction, the tincture, and the extract. Its aromatic and bitter qualities being imparted to boiling water, the infusion is an eligible preparation as a tonic and stomachic; but in cases of irritative indigestion, and to allay nervous irritability, the Doctor has found the tincture of the lupulin to succeed best. As to the extract and decoction, they possess only the bitter quality, the aroma being dissipated during boiling. The virtues of the tincture are aromatic, tonic, and sedative, and it is, says the Doctor, the only article in which these properties are combined. America, like other countries, abounds with vegetable bitters and tonics, many of which are more powerful than the

hop, but there is none, in the Doctor's opinion, "which can be so properly denominated a stomachic."

In the "family of symptomatic diseases, which are the consequence of a deranged state of the stomach and bowels," the Doctor has found the tincture extremely beneficial. It frequently induces sleep, and allays excessive nervous irritation, without occasioning costiveness, or impairing, like opium, the tone of the stomach, and thereby increasing the primary affection. As an anodyne, he observes, it will be inefficient, compared with opium. The saturated tincture of the lupulin, in the dose of forty to eighty drops, will induce sleep with as much certainty as opium, in cases of long watching from nervous irritability, but the same cannot be said of its efficacy in allaying pain. By boiling the hop in wort, for the purpose of extracting its preserving properties, the aroma, in which its peculiar grateful flavour resides, as well as its most powerful quality in preserving malt liquor in a vinous state, is dissipated.

LETTUCE OPIUM.—A few years have now elapsed since Professor Duncan, of Edinburgh, recommended to the attention of medical practitioners the inspissated white juice of the common garden lettuce. In a paper first published in the Memoirs of the Caledonian Horticultural Society, about ten years ago, he described what he considered the best method of preparing it, and he gave to the article thus prepared the name of *Lactucarium*, that there might be no similarity in sound between the appellation given to the extract, and to that which is obtained from the white poppy, known by the name of opium, a name derived from its being the coagulum of a milky juice; for although the inspissated milky juice obtained from the lettuce, the lettuce opium, as it might be called, possesses many of those medicinal properties which have been known to exist in the milky juice of the poppy, particularly in procuring sleep, yet it differs from the opium obtained from the poppy in several particulars; and from these differences *lactucarium* can be exhibited with success, in many cases where opium is altogether inadmissible.

Since the publication of the Professor's first observations on the lettuce opium, the attention of many others has been turned to this article. In the same work in which his observations were published, several interesting communications have appeared respecting it, particularly from Mr. John Henderson of Brechin, Mr. Archibald Gorrie of Rait, and others. To these gentlemen the public are indebted for improved methods of collecting it from the plant: but of all those who have attended to this subject no one has done so much as Mr. John Young, surgeon, of Edinburgh. As a proof of his success, a gold medal, offered by the Horticultural Society, has been awarded to him for preparing the greatest quantity of the article for sale.

The preparations of the lettuce opium recommended by the Professor are the tincture and lozenges; the latter of which we have noticed as a remedy for cough in an early number. He observes, that practitioners have sometimes been disappointed in obtaining the effects expected from this medicine, by adulterated articles having been sold under the name of lactucarium, or lettuce opium, and still oftener, from substitutes being employed, poppy opium being introduced where lettuce opium was prescribed, and thus exhibited to patients with whom

the poppy opium always disagrees. In such cases, the lettuce opium has sometimes been unjustly accused of being followed by disagreeable consequences.

Since the last observations the Professor published on the lettuce opium, which are annexed to the third edition of his Treatise on Pulmonary Consumption, he has had much experience of the benefit which may be derived from it when the *genuine* article is exhibited. He has not only found it highly useful in procuring sleep, in many who dread the consequences with which opium in their constitutions is attended, but also in allaying pain in cases of tooth-ache, when externally applied to the gum; and he has particularly found it useful in allaying distressing cough, when used under the form of a lozenge.

Among other cases in which he has found great benefit from the lettuce opium, one occurred in his own family. A grandchild, a healthy, vigorous boy, in the 9th year of his age, went to school on Friday, the 15th of September, 1820, apparently in perfect health: but while he dined with the family that day, he was observed to cough frequently; his cough was without expectoration, but he complained of no pain in the chest; he took his food as usual, and the cough gave him no alarm; during the evening, however, he still continued to cough frequently, but did not go to bed till his usual hour of nine o'clock. He had not been in bed an hour till an elder brother, who slept in the same room with him, came down stairs to inform the Professor that Henry's cough had increased both in severity and frequency, and was now attended with a very peculiar noise. Before he reached the room, he had no doubt, from the peculiar and characterizing sound of the cough, that he was afflicted with the croup—a disease of which he had before had more than one example in his own family. Among these, the boy's father, when nearly about his age, had been in very great danger from it; and to another of his sons, who was subjected to it some years after, it proved fatal. When he reached the room in which his afflicted grandchild slept, his mode of respiration, and every other circumstance, afforded full confirmation of his conjecture, that he laboured under the croup. It may readily be supposed, that he had immediate recourse to the most active measures: blood-letting, the application of a blister, an antimonial emetic, and the inhalation of the steams of warm water, were applied without delay; and he had also recourse to the use of calomel, in the manner recommended for the cure of croup by Dr. James Anderson, of Edinburgh. Under this treatment, the disease soon subsided; and in the space of a few hours, his great alarm was at an end.—The Professor's opinion was, that an inflammation at the head of the windpipe, which produced the croupy cough, as it is called, had been cut short by the active measures employed, and that his disease might be said to be an example not of the croup, but of inflammation of the larynx. In the case of his son who died of the croup about fifteen years ago, the inflammation and consequent inflammatory exudation, was not in the larynx, but entirely in the windpipe; and indubitable evidence was afforded, that the affection extended not only to the under part of the windpipe, but even to its large branches, the *bronchiæ* distributed through the lungs.

While the present case had a happy termination under the practice which the Professor has mentioned, it, at the same time, afforded him strong evidence of the benefit which may be derived from the lettuce lozenges, as a means of allaying a very troublesome and alarming cough: for after the most severe symptoms were removed, particularly the difficulty of breathing and peculiar sound in respiration, he still continued to be affected with frequent croupy cough. For combating this, he had recourse to the lettuce lozenge. The patient was directed to keep one of these constantly melting in his mouth, and from the time that this practice was begun, the frequency of his cough was very much diminished, and it soon entirely left him. Thus in the space of about twelve hours from the attack, he was completely free from the disease. The Professor had no doubt that if, in place of the lettuce lozenges, he had directed the ordinary opium lozenges of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, the same alleviation of cough would have been obtained; and he candidly confesses that he has by no means the same prejudice with some of his brethren against the use of opium in inflammatory affections. He considers opium to be the most valuable medicine that has been discovered. In affections decidedly of the inflammatory kind—as, for example, in acute rheumatism, he is in the daily habit of employing it after blood-letting, not only without any bad effect, but with manifest benefit. If it really does possess what is called a *stimulant* power, this (says he) is much more than counteracted by its *sedative* effects: and that it is the most powerful sedative we yet possess, is demonstrated beyond all contradiction, by its influence in allaying pain and inducing sleep. When protracted watchfulness is produced by a powerful stimulant, it is well known, that from the proper use of opium sleep may be obtained, though the stimulating cause still continues to act, as is often exemplified in tooth-ache. But notwithstanding the high opinion he has of opium, he is still far from considering it as free from objection in every case. There are human constitutions with which, from its peculiar narcotic power, it never can be employed with advantage. Of this he had occasion, many years ago, to witness a most deplorable example, in the case of his own father. For many years he laboured under a highly painful disease, a cancerous affection. Opium had with him, as with most others, the effect of producing a temporary alleviation of pain and some sleep: but no sooner had these consequences ended, than some of its secondary effects, particularly sickness at the stomach and vomiting, were highly distressing to him; and after trying it in every form, and in combination with every corrigent with which he was acquainted, he was obliged entirely to desert its use, though urgently required.

Cases of a similar nature are by no means rare, and in such habits a good substitute for opium, where the alleviation of pain, or the induction of sleep is required, is certainly of very great importance in the practice of medicine. Of all the substitutes the Professor has employed, the henbane, hemlock, the hop, &c. he has found the lettuce opium to be decidedly the best. While it possesses much of the sedative power of the poppy opium, it seems to be almost entirely free from its secondary influence: it is therefore a matter of very great importance in the practice of medicine, that the shop of every apothecary

should be supplied with the genuine article. With that view, every country apothecary should have it prepared in his own garden, which would effectually prevent all adulteration, and, according to the plan communicated by Mr. Young to the Horticultural Society, it may with great ease be prepared in any garden in Britain, while every apothecary in Britain, whose residence is not in a very large town, ought, in his opinion, to cultivate a garden for supplying both his kitchen and his shop.

Although now far advanced in life, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, the Professor flatters himself with the hope, that he may yet live to see the lettuce opium find a place in the Pharmacopœias of other colleges, as it has already done in that of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh: and that in the cure or alleviation of disease, others may obtain from it the same benefit that he has done, is his most earnest wish.

ANEURISM.—The modern operation for the cure of aneurism by the application of a single ligature, has lately been very adroitly performed in Oxford, in two instances: one, in which the external iliac artery was tied for an aneurism of the femoral artery, towards the upper part of the thigh; and another, in which the femoral artery was tied for the popliteal aneurism. The first subject, being an old man of 60, in a very weak, emaciated state, promised but small hopes of success: his life, however, in the opinion of surgeon Walker, was preserved by the operation, the aneurism being in a very advanced state; but the circulation was too languid to preserve the leg, which was amputated below the knee; a direct line of separation between the living and dead parts having there taken place.

The latter instance, being in a healthy young man, succeeded completely, without the occurrence of the least untoward circumstance. The ligature became perfectly detached, and was taken away on the twentieth day. The aneurismal tumour is much diminished, and the patient enjoys the perfect use of his limb, which is free from sensations of numbness or coldness.

"I mention," says Mr. Walker, "these cases, occurring in a provincial situation, principally to inculcate additional confidence, if needful, in such operations, being well assured, from my knowledge of operations in general, that in instances of the former kind, provided the subject be a tolerably fair one, the operation being judiciously performed, with due attention afterwards, there can be little doubt of complete success; neither mortification nor loss of blood from ulceration, being to be apprehended. In cases of the latter kind, under the beforementioned favourable circumstances, scarcely any doubt of success."

It unfortunately happens that some persons are particularly predisposed naturally to aneurism; such is the case in the latter instance; there being at the time of the operation an aneurism in a recent state, in the other ham: but this was justly considered no sufficient objection to the operation, which will probably be required at some future time.

"It is well known," observes Mr. W. "that in the old way of operating for the popliteal aneurism, mortification and death were so commonly the consequence, that latterly amputation in the first instance was deemed the better alternative."

CANINE MADNESS.—After an account of the notions that have been entertained of the nature of this disease, Dr. Majendie, of Paris, expresses some doubts of the success of any attempts to cure it by ordinary means, for the following reasons: "The most active substances, the most powerful narcotics, have no action either on man or animals affected with it."

The Doctor does not speak merely of substances introduced into the stomach, the action of which might be prevented or attenuated by so many circumstances, but of substances injected into the veins, the effects of which should be equally prompt and energetic. "For example," says he, "I have several times introduced opium, in large quantities (ten grains), into the veins of mad dogs, without producing the least narcotic influence; whilst a single grain of the aqueous extract passed into the veins of a dog in health, immediately produces sleep, which often continues for eight or ten hours. The same phenomena are observed in our own species. M. Dupuytren and myself have injected about eight grains of the watery extract of opium into the crural vein of a young man having hydrophobia, without any apparent result*. Mad dogs have also supported the introduction of prussic acid in their veins without experiencing an instant of relaxation in the progress of their disease.

"If substances as active as those above mentioned remain without effect, what hopes," says Dr. M. "can reasonably be founded on vegetables which perhaps have no action on the animal economy, even in the state of health?"

These and other reflections led Dr. Majendie to attempt to dilute the blood of the animal with water. With this view, a large dog of the mastiff kind, which had been decidedly mad at least two days, was muzzled and tied down on a table. After taking blood from the jugular vein, to the extent of about a pound, he introduced, by means of a syringe, about 60 ounces of water, at the temperature of 40° centigrade (105° Fahrenheit). Towards the middle of this injection, the vessels were much distended; so, reckoning from this moment to the end of the injection, he suffered the blood to flow from the superior extremity of the vein, while he continued to introduce the water by the inferior. There escaped in this manner about ten or twelve ounces of blood mingled with water.

The injection being finished, the dog was carried to his place; the animal soon became calm; he laid down in a circle, as it were, to sleep, as soon as he was left to himself, which he had not done since the commencement of his disease. He no longer growled; his eyes were calm, and there was nothing menacing in his aspect; he only showed his teeth when attempts were made, by a low stick, to take away the straw upon which he laid. The Doctor watched him for an hour; when he left one of his assistants to take charge of him.

---

* "Dr. Breschet and myself inoculated a dog under the skin of the forehead, with the saliva of this patient, and the animal became mad at the end of about a month. Two dogs who were bitten by this, also became mad after forty days. The latter bit several other dogs, but without any ill consequences."

When he had terminated this experiment, and had time to reflect respecting its consequences, some degree of regret accompanied the pleasure he felt on seeing the symptoms of the disease so perfectly calmed. He thought that he had introduced too large a quantity of water into the sanguiferous system. "I knew," says he, "that if the injection had been carried too far, laceration of the pulmonary vessels would take place, and the animal would die from an infarction of the lungs, similar to that which so often causes the death of man." However, he was a little disposed to hope that the great size of the animal would permit his blood-vessels to contain, without bursting, so large a quantity of fluid. But it was not so: to his great regret, his assistant came, in the course of the day, to inform him that in about five hours after the injection the animal began to suffer great difficulty of respiration, which continued to increase for half an hour, when he died. To this time the dog had been very calm; he had not growled, and he had continued to lie as it were in a state of quiet sleep.

"The dog was dissected with the utmost care. No mischief in the brain or the spinal marrow was discovered; the digestive organs were also in the healthy state, except that the salivary glands were red, and appeared to be enlarged. The lungs were in a state of infarction; that is to say, their tissue was filled with aqueous blood: the bronchia and the trachea were filled with a brownish spume; their mucous membrane seemed to be inflamed."

DR. HASTINGS'S BOOK.—In consequence of the remarks we have made on this production in our 62d number, Dr. Hastings, or a friend, has inserted the following advertisement in a paper, published weekly, in the city, in which the Doctor resides.

"*To the Editor of the Worcester Journal.*—SIR, Some animadversions upon Dr. Hastings's Work on Inflammation of the Mucous Membrane of the Lungs, *inconsistent with the views of just criticism, and totally unworthy of notice* except for the *false* impression which they are calculated to make on the *uninformed*, having been industriously circulated in this place, I think it but common justice to that gentleman to lay before the public the character of his work given by some of the *first* medical writers of the present day.

"The editors of the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, in their review of this work, speak of it as follows:—"The introduction to the "present volume contains an inquiry into the contractility of the blood-"vessels which *already, as his inaugural dissertation, when he acquired* "*the degree of M. D. in this university, has deservedly gained him* "*great reputation.*" Through the whole of their critique on this introduction they repeatedly express, and in strong terms, their entire approbation, and conclude thus:—"Upon the *whole*, we are of opinion "that Dr. Hastings has confirmed and established *incontrovertibly*, that "a *considerable share of* IRRITABILITY is possessed by the blood-"vessels in *every part* of the system."—"The treatise on inflammation "commences with a preliminary chapter on the general nature of in-"flammation; to which we *willingly* give an *equal* measure of praise, "as to the introduction." After giving some account of the experiments by which Dr. Hastings establishes his own theory, they add, "We cannot conclude this part of our analysis without expressing

" our *unqualified approbation* of the *liberal* and *candid* manner in " which Dr. H. speaks of those writers upon whose opinions and " observations he animadverts, and holding up *his style as a model* " *of* IMITATION to all those who may engage in controversial " writing "

" Doctor James Johnson, in his Medico-Chirurgical Review and Journal, a work now *much looked up to,* expresses himself as follows :— " We now come to the subject of Bronchitis; and here we take up the " work of Dr. Charles Hastings, a gentleman *whose zeal and talents* " will, we venture to prognosticate, do honour to the present æra of " *pathological investigation,* and contribute greatly to the progress of " the healing art." In closing this article he observes, " The *numerous* " *specimens of Doctor Hastings's work which we have laid before our* " *readers,* cannot but have impressed them with a high opinion of *its* " *own* merits, and *its author's talents:* it therefore needs no further re- " commendation from us, as the importance of the subject, and the " ability with which it is treated by Dr. H., will speedily induce the " purchasers of *select* practical works to place the volume in their " library for reference as well as perusal."

" The Medical Repository, edited by Doctors Uwins and *Shirley Palmer,* and *Mr. Gray,* bears the following high testimony to the merits of this work :—" Dr. Hastings has proved himself by this performance " an *accurate pathologist, a judicious practitioner, and able writer.* The " *young* physician will, we can assure him, find more of truth than of " system in every page of this valuable work."

" The editors of the London Medical and Physical Journal introduce their observations by stating :—" We had not perused many sentences " of the preface before we felt disposed to entertain some degree of " prejudice in favour of this work, the author so immediately indicates " the accurate and judicious views from which the greater part of it has " originated." After enumerating the several varieties of the disease under consideration, and which are so accurately pointed out in the treatise, they proceed :—" The particular symptoms and most " striking characteristics of these varieties are considered by the " author with much acumen. *Many practitioners affect to despise* " *such nice distinctions of the varieties of a disease, but it is the know-* " *ledge and application of these that make the difference between a good* " *and bad practitioner.* As favouring considerably these indications the " work of Dr. Hastings must be considered an addition of considerable " value to medical literature, even did it possess no other merit." The following is their concluding observation: " We have given a sufficient " exposition of the pathological part of this work, to shew that our preju- " dice in its favour was well founded; and we have no doubt but that " it will be generally referred to, by medical practitioners, as the source " of much clinical information."

" It is not pretended that there is no shade of difference between some of the opinions advanced by Dr. Hastings and those of his reviewers : there is *too much original matter* in the work to admit a *perfect* agreement without the fullest discussion; and every one knows that every thing *savouring of novelty* ought to be very cautiously admitted in medicine : SELDOM, however, has a work issued from the press so GENERALLY ap-

proved or which has offered so *little scope* for JUST censure. *Whether the assiduity with which the uncandid remarks complained of have been circulated here, has arisen* PURELY *from a regard to science, your* READERS *will determine* for themselves. I am, Sir, your's, &c.

Worcester, Feb. 24, 1821. J. R."

How partial extracts from other journals can be consistent with the "views of *just* criticism" we are at a loss to conjecture. "Uninformed," indeed, must that reader be who would suppose that such partial extracts can amount to a refutation of our *practical* objections to certain theories and practice; and "uninformed" must that individual be of the *traffic* of book-making and the *trade* of reviewing, who is led by such quotations to suppose that Dr. Hastings is the medical luminary, his reviewers represent him to be, or that such opinions are worthy of notice, although coming, as the Doctor or his friend states, "from the *first* medical *writers* of the present day"!!! Now the proprietors of the medical journals in general are booksellers, who but too frequently engage in their service young men to write for them, who, unacquainted with practice, are, of course, very competent judges of the *practical* merits of a Dissertation on the Causes, Treatment, &c. of a Disease. Through the *interest* of this class of *experienced* scribblers, or as they are termed *experienced* WRITERS, the most contemptible productions have been highly praised. The Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, the property of Messrs. Constable and Co. booksellers, of Edinburgh, was, and we believe still is, edited by Dr. Duncan, jun. a physician well qualified to decide on the merit of medical works in general, but it must be very evident to every practitioner, that *all* the criticisms which appear in that Journal were not written by him. Published in the first medical school in the world, and edited as it is by a physician, who in point of science and experience is a prominent character in it, its pages should not be disgraced or its readers insulted with partial or unscientific criticisms. If the criticism from which Dr. H. or his friend has given so flattering a quotation, (to a man of *genuine* science very gratifying) were written by Dr. Duncan, we beg to ask him, what part of the dissertation on the *contractility* of the blood vessels gained him such *great reputation?* We never heard of the light it has thrown on this subject, and as to the assertion, that he has "established *incontrovertibly* that a considerable share of *irritability* is possessed by the blood vessels in every part of the system," we never met with such ridiculous nonsense in the works of Doctor Solomon, or even of Mrs. Johnson, who sometimes favours us with a little flight of fancy in great verbose splendour. We beg to ask Dr. Duncan, jun. in what century, either subsequent or anterior to the time of Hippocrates, the blood vessels were supposed not to possess a degree of irritability and contractility, and what additional light Dr. Hastings has thrown on this subject? The Doctor's scientific experiments after such a panegyric are entitled to some notice, and this they shall have in our next number. That the Medico-chirurgical Review and Journal by *Doctor* James Johnson "is much looked up to," we allow to be true, but by whom? The back numbers of this gentleman's labours have been long on the uppermost shelf, to which books of little demand are exalted by publishers, and this shelf retailers of bacon and butter "look up to" regularly every week

for waste paper. Now, were not Dr. Hastings and Dr. Philip advertised patrons of this said "much looked up to Journal," we should really have thought that *Dr.* James Johnson, who is often in a funny mood, was quizzing his friend Dr. Hastings. To recommend the Doctor's work to the attention of purchasers of "*select* PRACTICAL works," must certainly be most gratifying to his feelings as an author, and beneficial to the interest of the *publishers*. That Dr. Uwins, one of the editors of the Medical Repository (the property of Mr. Underwood, a bookseller) is a competent judge of the merits of a medical production, no practitioner of observation and experience, acquainted with his writings, will deny; but that *he* should pronounce Dr. Hastings, from his work, "*an accurate pathologist, a judicious practitioner and able writer*," we cannot prevail on ourselves to believe. The case is, *Dr.* James Johnson, the friend of Dr. Philip, is connected with the said Repository. The leading editor of the Medical and Physical Journal (the property of Mr. Souter, a bookseller), Dr. Hutchinson, being a firm friend to science, and a physician of great integrity, we suspect the *friendly* review of Dr. Hastings's work crept into that Journal without *his* knowledge. It is very easy for a reviewer to compliment an author for his acumen and for his valuable practical observations, but we defy any of the puffers of Dr. Hastings's work to point out one novel idea of the smallest practical utility. By praising a work which possesses no merit whatever, Dr. Duncan, jun. and other medical reviewers, should be aware that they do the community considerable injury by checking the progress of the science of medicine. Dr. Duncan, jun. and his colleagues should also be aware that friendly reviews, or partiality to the works of their pupils, or of the graduates of Edinburgh, lessen the respectability of a Journal in the opinion of men of science. Reviewers should be independent of booksellers. As long as reviews are the property of booksellers, this is not likely to be the case. A subscriber at Worcester, under the signature of "Vindicator," accuses us of "having permitted the sentiments of a practitioner in that city (an opponent of Dr. Hastings), to have prejudiced our minds against Dr. Hastings's work." We are totally unacquainted with the sentiments of Dr. Hastings's opponent respecting him or his work, and we have had no kind of communication with any person on the subject. Our remarks on the work are purely practical, and in making them, we had no other object in view than the promotion of medical science. If Doctor Hastings supposes that our observations are not correct, we are very willing to refer them to any practitioner of *experience and judgment;* we suspect he will not dare to risk such a reference. Vindicator also accuses us of great inconsistency in having spoken favourably of Dr. Philip's experiments in one number, and unfavourably in another. The results of the Doctor's experiments appearing to throw some light on the office of particular nerves in the animal economy, we spoke in high terms of approbation of them, supposing that his detail of the results was correct, and had they been so, the profession and the community would have been greatly indebted to him for his "experimental inquiries." The repetition of the experiments by Mr. Brodie, although not conducted exactly in the same manner, being attended with different results, induced many scientific characters to doubt the accuracy of Dr. Philip's reports. The late expe-

riments of Mr. Broughton, a surgeon of sound judgment and accurate observation, have most satisfactorily settled the question, probably, for ever, they having been uniformly productive of results different to those which were published by Dr. Philip!! Now, if Dr. Hastings's theories are founded on Dr. Philip's experiments, can they be entitled to any attention?

CUPPING.—By this operation, in consequence of the blood escaping from veins and arteries, a greater quantity may be abstracted without producing fainting, or the debilitating effects, which frequently follow the loss of a few ounces from a vein or an artery. Another advantage attendant on it, is the speedy production of a degree of irritation, which often produces as effectual a derivation as that excited by a blister. In inflammatory affections of the head, chest, or abdomen, many physicians, therefore, give cupping a decided preference to bleeding, either from a vein or an artery. Simple as this operation appears to be, not one surgeon in a thousand can perform it with the adroitness of those who devote their time to it, termed cuppers. We have seen surgeons of this metropolis, fail in extracting an ounce of blood from a part, from which a cupper, in a few minutes afterwards, took twelve ounces with great facility. Mr. Mapleson, the most expert and scientific cupper of this metropolis, has just published an improved edition of his "Treatise on the Art of Cupping," in which he gives the following instructions for conducting the operation.

"The first step in the operation of cupping is to produce a partial vacuum over one or more portions of the surface of the skin. This purpose, as has been already stated, was formerly effected by sucking the air out of a hollow gourd or cucurbit, by the application of the mouth, or expelling it from a similarly shaped metallic vessel, by the introduction of a portion of flaming flax. The invention of glass has for many years wholly superseded these contrivances; and glass cups are now universally used for the purpose of exhaustion, as being neat, cleanly, and light, permitting also the colour and quantity of blood to be judged of, as it flows from the wounds. For the purpose of exhausting the contained air, these are occasionally made with brass caps and valves, and fitted up with a small syringe of the same metal. To this plan there are two objections: 1st, the exhaustion is apt to be carried too far, which, instead of promoting, tends to obstruct the flow of blood; 2dly, the operation is rendered extremely tedious and fatiguing, both to the patient and the operator; besides, the glasses are very apt to be broken, and the valves to lose their elasticity.

"The air contained in the glass may also be rarefied by steam; but the mode now, I believe, universally adopted by regular cuppers, is the momentary introduction of the flame of a spirit lamp, with a thick wick; the larger the glass, (if properly exhausted,) the less pain does the patient suffer, and the more freely does the blood flow.

"When about to perform the operation, let there be provided a hand basin with warm water, a piece of fine sponge, and a lighted candle. Place as many glasses in the basin as may be judged requisite to obtain the quantity of blood intended to be taken away. If sixteen or twenty ounces are ordered, four glasses, of a size adapted to the surface, will in most cases be required. Each glass is then separately to be held, for an *instant*, over the flame of the spirit lamp, and immediately placed upon the skin of the patient. Upon the quickness with which this is effected, depends the whole neatness and efficacy of the operation.—To obviate their want of dexterity, many operators in the

country throw a little bit of tow or paper, dipped in spirits and inflamed, into the cupping glass, the moment before it is applied,—a very clumsy expedient, often adding unnecessarily to the sufferings of the patient by cauterizing the skin; doing harm also by rarefying the air more than necessary within the glass; in consequence of which the edges of the cup compress the cutaneous vessels so much as to obstruct the influx of the blood.

"If the glasses have been duly exhausted, the skin will be seen gradually to swell up within the cup, owing to the pressure of the air upon the parts in the vicinity, as well as the expansion of the fluids contained in the cellular membrane. The skin becomes also of a dark purple colour, owing to the influx of blood into the smaller vessels. If dry cupping be only intended, the glasses may be allowed to remain on the skin for a few moments, and replaced five or six times, varying their position a little, to prevent bruising the skin.—If the intention be to scarify and take away blood, the glass ought not to remain more than a minute, when it is to be removed by gently introducing the nail of the fore-finger under the edge, and the scarificator *instantly* applied, and the lancets discharged upon the skin, before the tumour has had time to subside. Upon the rapidity or slowness with which the application of the scarificator succeeds the removal of the glass, depends all the sufferings of the patient. If the skin has completely subsided before the stroke of the lancets, much unnecessary pain is inflicted.

"The glasses are thus to be removed and re-applied successively. They should be a second time removed, if necessary, as soon as the blood is perceived to coagulate within them, or when they are so full as to be in danger of dropping off. For the sake of neatness, care should be taken to insert the nail under the upper part of the glass, and open them downwards, gently wiping the wounds at the same time with a warm moist sponge.

"The glasses, previous to every application, should be rinsed in the warm water, but not dried. To obviate the unpleasant sensation produced by the coldness of the metal, it is advisable to pass the instrument for a moment over the flame of the lamp before using it.

"To ascertain the precise quantity of blood—a circumstance generally interesting to all parties concerned—the contents of the cups should be emptied into a graduated glass measure, with which the operator should always be provided.

"When the operation is finished, it is common to apply a piece of fine linen rag to the wounds; but if the patient does not object to a little smarting, either arquebusade water, or spirits of wine, is a preferable application, as it immediately stops the oozing of the blood, promotes the healing of the wounds, and prevents the subsequent itching, which I have heard some patients complain of, as the most unpleasant part of the operation.

"In some gross and inflammatory habits I have seen slight suppuration of the wounds made by the scarificator, but never any case that might not be healed by the application of a little of the common wax ointment.

"It is a common error to make the incisions too deep, especially if the object be to take away much blood; being convinced nothing is gained by going deeper than the cutis, or true skin, while an unnecessary increase of pain is caused to the patient.

"The quantity of blood obtained (in most cases) depends wholly upon the due exhaustion and proper application of the glasses, to attain expertness in which requires some practice and experience. In cupping upon the back or neck, the glasses should never be placed upon the spine itself, which produces unnecessary pain, but on each side of it. If it can possibly be avoided, the glasses should not be applied to parts where the skin is in immediate contact with the subjacent bones or ligaments; though, if care be taken to apply the

scarificator before the tumour caused by the glass has subsided, there is no danger.

"It is certainly preferable to make the incisions in the direction of the fibres of the subjacent muscles; but it is not of much importance, as, in my opinion, the incisions ought never to penetrate so deep as the muscular flesh.

"In some diseases of the head, it is requisite to cup upon the posterior part of the hairy scalp, which of course must be previously shaved. As the skin is peculiarly loose and thick upon this part, the cups often bury themselves so deeply as to require the introduction of a thin piece of metal (an old shilling answers very well) to displace them; and the scarificator also requires to be properly adjusted, so as to cut a little deeper than is necessary in other parts to which cups are applied.

"From cupping on the temples I have seen many hundred instances of decided benefit in severe inflammation of the eyes; but I would not advise any person to attempt this operation unless he has had considerable practice upon other parts of the body.

"Previously to applying the glasses, it is of importance to foment the skin well with a sponge and warm water. Cupping in the warm bath is rendered more efficacious by the relaxed and softened state of the skin.

"No step in the operation of cupping demands more the attention of the operator than the state of his scarificators. If not exquisitely keen, they occasion unnecessary pain; if foul or rusty, they may communicate disease, or give rise to festering sores.—The lancets or cutters should be kept as sharp and in as fine order as possible, so as to make a clean incision, without bruising or giving fruitless pain.

"The intention of the operation is, I believe, frequently defeated, from want of attention to these apparently trivial circumstances."

Mr. Mapleson, during his long practice, has made such observations on the effects of this mode of abstracting blood, on a variety of diseases, as to enable him to point out the diseases in which it has proved beneficial. The observation of a man, in the habit of witnessing the *effects* of a remedy, almost every hour of his life, although not a member of the profession, cannot but prove interesting to regular practitioners; we shall, therefore, briefly notice them.—Our non-medical readers will of course receive the opinions with great caution, for the affections, in which Mr. Mapleson has witnessed the beneficial effects of cupping, are symptoms of diseases of an opposite nature, and occur in opposite states of the system.

Head-ache, when seated in the fore part of the head, and *attended with a sense of fulness*, is, in general, immediately relieved by cupping. When the pain is principally in the back part of the head, he has very rarely found it useful. When the pain is chiefly felt over *one* eye, it has *never* afforded relief.

Delirium, when attendant on *incipient* fevers, it is uniformly very useful.

For *inflammation* of the brain, he has found cupping, "the most active and energetic means of depletion that can be employed." In those cases he has frequently taken away 100 ounces within a few days.

Insanity.—In slight and deplorable cases it generally affords relief.

Melancholy.—From cupping behind and below the ear he has observed good effects; it seldom fails to allay irritation, and tranquillize the mind, in this disease.

Giddiness and Lethargy, when the effect of plethora, it never fails

to remove the complaints, and to prevent apoplexy. He has also occasionally found the operation to afford relief in cases of *watery head*, (the inflammatory stage), *epilepsy* (when attended with plethora or morbid determination of blood to the head), *depression*, from congestion of the blood vessels of the head or chest, *inflammation of the eyes* (applied to the temples), *inflammation of the throat* (applied to the nape of the neck), *inflammation of the lungs*, *palpitation of the heart*, *measles* (when the inflammatory excitement of the lungs runs high), *contusions*, *intoxication*.

Long experience and observation have made Mr. Mapleson a great friend to an abstraction of blood by cupping, on the commencement of spring and autumn. The propriety of this practice must depend on the state of the sanguiferous system, and the nature of the disease to which the person is predisposed.

ADVICE TO PHYSICIANS, (*continued from page* 822.)—"As it is said, that two heads are sometimes better than one, the patient and his friends might then have the benefit of two opinions separately taken; and why not in physic, as well as law cases? why not a written opinion demanded, in like manner as counsel's opinion, for the sake of comparison and discussion? No! the original physician must be the organ and director; and the second, therefore, is at no time to visit but *in company with* the first;—how soon such sort of *etiquette* ought to be put an end to, we will leave the public to judge; but to proceed; if, on this consultation of physicians, the case should turn out to be one, where an aggravation of symptoms may possibly have been the consequence of an ingenious variety of medicine, and a forgetfulness of the occasional utility of what has been vulgarly called the "*kitchen physic*," —or, probably, the exhibition of any of the new and active articles *in fashion*, you must have a proper degree of friendly feeling for your brother practitioner; and, to shew he has proceeded with perfect correctness, you must boldly advise, that the *last prescription* of *your friend* should be persevered in, and that the *dose be doubled* ! !*

"* A fashionable physician, now no longer living, who ranked high in the profession, was attending an elderly lady, to whom he was prescribing the digitalis, æther, &c. and the patient getting worse, from day to day, her recovery was pronounced to be impossible, when a second physician was proposed; and, at the consultation, they concurred as to the nature of the malady, and ordered, that the last medicine prescribed, which had disagreed and distressed her exceedingly, should be *persevered in*, and *the dose doubled!!* This appeared to the sick lady so unfeeling, revolting, and cruel, that she sent for the writer, who happened to be accidentally in town, to ask his advice upon it, as a friend; who, on hearing the whole detail of the disorder, was convinced, that the two former physicians had unaccountably mistaken the cause of the disease, which they had pronounced to be a *Dropsy in the Chest;* whereas, it was a case of *disordered Liver*, and *obstructed Bile*, from chronic *inflammation* of the *Gall Bladder;* and the symptoms were accordingly aggravated in proportion to the quantity exhibited of the irritating articles before mentioned; and which were now so

" As your office includes the dietetic as well as the medical treatment, you will frequently be asked by the patient, or the nurse, what

---

strangely ordered by them to be " *doubled in dose.*" The lady was easily persuaded to throw aside all medicines, and to depend upon cooling and simple diluents; the consequence was, that, instead of dying that night, as they had pronounced, an amendment immediately took place; and she was well enough, in three weeks after, to be removed to her country house.

" I remember a physician, a very worthy man, who obtained a good practice and considerable reputation; and he had but *one* prescription; nevertheless, his patients were sure to be much better after his first visit. His custom was, not to write his recipe at the sick house; but to go to the apothecary's and call for pen and paper; and the young men in the shops were always glad to see him, in preference to any other, as he was the cause of very little trouble; and when he sat down to write, they would wink and smile at each other; for they always knew what the prescription was to be. In fact, it never was more or less than, eight or ten drachms of *Infusion of Senna*, and one drachm of *Solutive Syrup of Roses*, to be taken " *statim;*" and it was, certainly, the sooner the better; for it quietly removed from the *primæ viæ* all the various and complicated farrago that the apothecary had there put; and left nature to her own work: the patient, being immediately relieved, was well pleased with the doctor, who, at his next visit, was sure to say, " *repetatur haustus,*" for it was seldom he would give any thing else; and, if he did, it was of a very simple, mild, and inactive nature.

" There was another physician, in the same provincial city, whose practice was *somewhat* different; wherever *he* went, the following was *his favourite* prescription. Take strong *infusion of Valerian, two ounces; thirty grains of Spermaceti* dissolved in the yolk of an egg; then add *twenty grains of compound powder of Contrayerva*, to which put *Nitre* and *Camphor* of each five grains: and this *compound* draught was directed to be taken every three hours. Thus, there was valerian for the *nervous* part of the case, spermaceti for the *cough*, contrayerva and nitre for the *fever*, and camphor to support the *vis vitæ;* and besides these draughts, there were emulsions and pills to be taken " *horis vacuis.*" This physician was a tall figure, and dressed in the costume of the profession thirty years ago; viz. the long camblet cloak, lined with scarlet, cocked hat, huge wig, and cane. He was a gentleman extremely respectable; but of a temper rather hasty: and, being once on a journey to a patient sixteen miles off, he found fault with his post-boy, who was both obstinate and impertinent, and the quarrel rose so high, that in the middle of the lonely stage the lad jumped off the horses, and declared, with an oath, that he would drive him no further. The doctor had, therefore, no alternative but to get, himself, upon the riding horse, and drive into the town, dressed as he was, and mounted whip-in-hand. Dr. Syntax himself never made a more excellent figure !!

" His neighbour, the senna and rose physician, before mentioned, was, on the other hand, so plain and simply clad, that one day arriving at a neighbouring town, whither he had been sent for in a great hurry,

food is to be taken? and what is best for common drink? now, your answer will instantly and invariably be "Toast and water, and barley water." Two articles, we will venture *(seriously,* not *ironically)* to affirm, very much misunderstood in their effects, and ought to be discarded from the sick room, in the same manner as the stramonium, the deadly night shade, and some others, before treated of, ought to be dismissed from the apothecary's shop: the fact is, that the custom of drinking toast and water, is peculiarly calculated, from the alum and other substances which it contains, to promote obstruction in the coats of the alimentary canal, and biliary system: and barley water, the other very common drink, is extremely forcing and stimulating to the kidnies; and which, we suppose, is the *sapient* reason, that whenever a strangury supervenes from the absorption of cantharides, under the action of blistering plasters, the first remedy thought of, by many practitioners, is this said barley water in *large quantities;* which is, we contend, adding fuel to the fire.

"You may also probably be asked by the patient, in certain cases, "what wine shall I drink?" the answer is sure to be "*Port,*" a beverage far less adapted to the sick than the light coloured wines; and, for those that are in health, we contend it is very doubtful.

"In this damp climate, such a cordial astringent may be occasionally indicated, and allowable; but, when had in constant use, it will induce a premature appearance of old age; and become the cause of bilious and other indispositions which are possibly, from this very cause, almost peculiar to our climate. The French are so aware of this, that they speak of it, as a matter of great surprise, that an Englishman will drink a whole bottle of it (Port), whereas they (the French), consider it merely as a "*medicine,*" to be had recourse to only in particular cases, where the highest cordials are necessary, such as in Agues, &c. and in the same way as you would prescribe *Logwood,* or a *decoction of Sloes,* in the Dysentery.

"If you are popular among your brethren, you may be chosen one of the Censors by the College of Physicians; and you will act with little spirit, if you do not make this your appointment a *complete sinecure.* The inspection of the shops of the apothecaries, and an examination of their contents, belong to your department. But to do your duty, would be a very invidious and troublesome task; and deprive your patients of much of your *valuable* time and attention. You know perfectly well, Mr. Censor, as all the faculty do, that the shops of *some* of the apothecaries, and perhaps *some* of the chemists, both in London and in other parts of the Kingdom, contain too many articles, falsely called "pharmaceutics," that are specious, noxious, stale, and good for nothing; and that, by virtue and power of your office, you have an undoubted right to seize, and throw them into the street: but, do not be so rigid a censor, so strict a promoter of the discipline of old times. Shut your eyes against the

---

and knocking at the door, the person who opened it, taking him for his servant, said: "Pray, my good man, is the doctor arrived? for it is nearly all over with us." "If that is the case," cried old Senna, "then the sooner you shew me up stairs the better."

ingenious artifices of these shops, and shew your approbation of the mode of recompensing themselves, by supplying their patients with *spurious Medicines*, and making them pay for them the full price of those that are genuine; remember that, as a true Briton, and a good subject, you are bound to encourage the growth of all British produce, and discourage foreign articles; and let this principle be a salvo to your conscience, when you connive at English Rhubarb and other Roots, being sold for the foreign; and if you happen to meet with *Spurious Bark*, let it pass for the true sort, for you know this fraud encourages the growth of the British Oak.

"Here, we cannot omit to advert to the absurd custom, still prevalent in the College of Physicians, of examining candidates, for licences to practise, in the Latin tongue. There was certainly a very good reason for it formerly, when the Latin language was well understood, and generally and fluently spoken by all scholars. But this practice has long ceased, and the phrases necessary to convey the questions of the Examiners, and the answers of the Candidates, are difficult to be acquired; and the consequence is, that both parties are put under extreme restraint, and are fettered so, that the business is cut as short as possible: who, therefore, does not see, that our own language would be more proper, or indeed, is absolutely necessary, to give scope to a fair and full trial of a candidate's abilities and attainments in medical science?

"As the examinations are at present conducted, the scrutiny is limited to a very few particulars, perhaps to one species of malady, or one topic of pharmacy only among the multitude that exists; and the consequence may be, that a candidate may be passed, with the full authority and approbation of the college, whose abilities are almost entirely unascertained, and who may be empowered "*ad practicandum per totam Angliam*," who, from incompetence, may possibly only practise "*ad occidendum*."

"On the Continent, this business of examination for a degree, is better conducted. It is there not a nullity. The first question put to the candidate is in Latin, and the examination is continued in whatever language the candidate may reply, provided the professors are acquainted with it."

The Author's *politic* advice to Surgeons will be given in the addition to the present Number, which will be published on the 15th of April.

BUCHU LEAVES.—In our first notice of these leaves, we find there is a typographical error in the generic name of the shrub; instead of Diosma, it should have been Diosma crenata. An intelligent correspondent informs us that the natives of the Cape are much in the habit of using an ointment, composed of the finely powdered leaves and grease; but, for what purpose, he does not state. We have found the infusion of the leaves to succeed far beyond our expectation, in several cases of morbid irritability of the bladder and urethra. We select the following as the most decisive of the beneficial effects of the infusion of the leaves:—

Adam Davis, of Brentford, about 56 years of age, had been subject to pains in the region of the bladder, frequent paroxysms of retention of urine, and, at other times, an incontinence of it, for about 16 years. Within the three last years, his general health had materially given way

to the disease. During the time he was under our care, nearly all the anodyne extracts, the prussic acid, calomel, infusion of peach leaves, uva ursi, and mucilaginous decoctions, as that of marsh-mallow root, Iceland moss, &c. lavements and external irritants, had a fair trial. The medicines which afforded the most relief were, pills of the extract of henbane, hemlock, and a very small proportion of calomel with an infusion of the uva ursi. During the use of these remedies, he, however, sometimes experienced a recurrence of *obstinate retention*. The failure of every medicine, that was (in our opinion) likely to afford relief, we considered sufficient to justify our prescribing the Buchu leaves. We accordingly ordered him to take two table spoonsful of the infusion of the leaves, (made by infusing half an ounce in a pint of water) three times a day. After taking this medicine regularly for one week, he was very considerably better, being able to retain his urine five hours longer than he had done for ten years; and when we saw him, at Brentford, on Tuesday, the 27th instant, he told us he was free from any affection of the bladder, and enjoyed a better state of health than he had done for many years. The medicine, he said, evidently strengthened his stomach.

In a case of gleet, of long standing, attended with considerable irritation at the neck of the bladder, and other symptoms of diseased prostate gland, this infusion succeeded in effecting a cure in the course of three weeks.—This patient being of an inflammatory habit, took only two table spoonsful of the infusion twice a day: when he exceeded that dose, he became feverish, or, as he expressed himself, "it produced general irritability, which he had often experienced from taking an extra glass of wine." Notwithstanding this general effect, his local complaint continued to decrease.

PARTURITION.—Sirs, Being a student in medicine, and intending, at no distant period, to *attempt*, like Dr. Hastings, to make some figure in the literary world, I am encouraged to enquire of you, or of some of your subscribers, who practise midwifery, if, in *any* case of twins, or any circumstance or circumstances, immediately or remotely connected with the case, a practitioner is justified in leaving a patient after delivering her of one infant, for twenty hours, and postponing the delivery of the other for that time? A case of twins lately occurred in this city, which terminated to the great disgrace of the profession, in the opinion of every class here. The day after the lady (young and healthy) was delivered, Mr. ———, or, as you would with propriety say, *Mrs.* ———, called, and delivered her of another; after which, he observed, with a *philosophic composure*, peculiar to a certain class of practitioners, that he knew, when he left her, that there was one, if not more, remaining in the uterus, and that she would do all the better for the interval of ease, *he* had afforded her. The *supposed* advantage she derived from this very humane indulgence, was, the termination of all her worldly concerns in a few days!! Now, Sirs, you say, in your 24th Number, that midwifery is brought to a degree of greater perfection than any other department of medicine; if this be really the case, you will be able to satisfy the good breeding married ladies, and those who are anxiously looking forward to the blissful state of marriage, all that art could possibly accomplish, was done, to secure the lives of the mother and the

twins. The infant, last introduced into this "Vale of Sorrow," shook its head, cried, refused the bitter draught, and took its leave for ever. Intending, as I have observed, shortly to appear in the literary world, as a supporter of the dignity of the profession, and to follow the learned Dr. Philip to London, to return again to this place with all the knowledge I may be able to collect from Abernethy and hospital practice, I am, as you may imagine, most desirous to keep up the confidence of the good inhabitants in the healing art. I am, your constant reader,

Worcester, March 15, 1821. A PUPIL.

We conceive, that in no case of twins, an accoucheur can safely leave his patient after the delivery of one infant. Having ascertained that another remains, he should proceed in the delivery, or, if the exhausted state of the patient should render a short delay necessary, he should not, in our opinion, quit her till the delivery be completed. We are not aware of any circumstance, that can warrant a delay of twenty-four hours, or the absence of the accoucheur for twelve hours. We suspect, in the above case, the accoucheur was not aware that there were twins, till his visit on the following day. We shall be very happy to receive the opinion of an experienced practitioner, on the practice of the accoucheur, in this case, which, we find, from two correspondents, has excited a great sensation in the minds of the married ladies of Worcester and its vicinity.

SUDATORY.—M. La Beaume, of Southampton Row, Russell-square, employs this species of dry, warm bath, in his practice, with decided advantage. It is very portable, and used in bed without the least personal inconvenience or trouble; affords almost immediate relief from pain, restoring the balance of circulation, and invariably producing a copious perspiration: hence it has been found very efficacious in the cure of obstructions and torpidity of the liver and bowels, many diseases of the skin, dropsy of the extremities, indolent swellings, rheumatism, &c. M. La Beaume continues to employ the air-pump vapour-bath with success in cases of gout, palsy, diseased joints, contractions, &c. This apparatus is applied to the affected limbs, not only on the parts more immediately attacked, but also on the system, by determining the circulation to the surface, and counteracting diseased action. Some interesting cases of the successful application of electricity and Galvanism, in chronic affection of the stomach and head, obstruction and torpor of the liver and bowels, &c. which have occurred in M. La Beaume's practice, we intend to give in our next Number.

PASTILES, CEMENTS, &c.—SIRS, The insertion of the following receipts in your excellent work, will embolden me to make further communications. I am, Sirs, your obedient servant,

Feb. 20, 1821. C. B.

Odoriferous Pastiles.—Take of Benzoin gum,
Frankincense, of each 2½ drs.
Gum Myrrh,
—— Styrax,
Cascarilla bark in powder,
Nitrate of potass, of each 1½ oz.
Charcoal powder, 1 oz.—Mix, and form into a mass with mucilage of gum arabic and oil of turpentine.

Curry Powder.—Take of Coriander seeds in powder, 12 oz.
Black pepper, do. 6 oz.
Cayenne pepper, 1¼ oz.
True turmeric powdered, yellow, 3 oz.
Fenugreek seeds, do. 3 oz.
Turmeric powdered, pale, 6 oz.
Cummin seeds, do. 3 oz.—This composition, well dried, should be kept in a bottle, with a glass stopper, in a dry place.

Cement for glass or metals.—Take of Gum mastic, 10 grains,
Rectified spirit of wine, 2 drs.
Add 2 ounces of strong isinglass glue, made with brandy, and 10 grains of the true gum ammoniac.
Dissolve all together, and keep it stopped in a phial. When intended to be used, set it in warm water.

ADULTERATED WINES.—It is well ascertained that wine-merchants sometimes add alum to red wine, to communicate to it a rough taste and deeper colour; now this mixture may produce in the system ill effects of a more or less serious kind. Several means have been proposed for the discovery of the fraud in question, but many of them have proved ineffectual. Dr. Orfila of Paris recommends the following as the most certain. The wine is to be discoloured by means of a concentrated solution of chlorine; the mixture is to be evaporated until it is reduced to nearly the fourth of its original volume; the liquor is to be filtered; it then possesses the following properties when it contains alum: 1st. It has a sweetish astringent taste; 2d. It furnishes a *white* precipitate (sulphate of barytes) with nitrate of barytes, insoluble in water and in nitric acid; 3d. Caustic potash gives rise to a *yellowish white* precipitate of alumine, soluble in an excess of potash; 4th. The subcarbonate of soda produces a *yellowish white* precipitate (subcarbonate of alumine) decomposable by fire into carbonic acid gas, alumine, easily recognisable by its characters.

GERMAN SAUSAGES.—Dr. J. Kerner has discovered that German *smoked* sausages, a favourite food of the inhabitants of Wirtemberg, often contain a powerful poison. It has been observed, that the effects of this peculiar poison are most manifest in spring time, or the month of April, in a manner more or less alarming. In a periodical paper, which appears at Tubingen, Mr. Kerner has just published a number of observations on the subject, and he states, that he has now in the press, a work in which he intends to give a full account of it. It appears that out of 76 persons who were indisposed in consequence of having eaten sausages, 37 died in a short time, while others remained valetudinarians for years. Liver sausages he has found to be the most dangerous. In general (says M. Kerner) the poison is formed in hashed and seasoned meat, after being stuffed in an intestine and smoked. This animal poison, he says, is distinguished from all others by this circumstance—that it does not attack the brain or spinal marrow, while it paralizes the whole lymphatic system. Sometimes the patient, for many months together, ceases to feel his heart beat, whilst the pulsation

of the arteries remains invariable. All the observations of M. Kerner are supported by numerous cases which have come within his own experience.

POISONED MEAT.—Mr. Cadet, of Paris, states, that he has been required by the police authorities, five or six times within the last fifteen years, to analyze meats, bought at the sausage shops at Paris. Those meats had proved poisonous, according to the statements of several physicians, and every means were taken by the legal authorities to discover the cause of these results. Mr. Cadet analyzed all the meats; examined all the vessels in which they had been prepared; analyzed the matters vomited, or found in the stomachs of the patients after death, without being able to find any trace of mineral poison by any of the tests in use: there was not an atom of copper, arsenic, or antimony; nor any evidence of malevolence or negligence. The shop-keepers were never brought into a court of justice; but similar accidents have recurred from time to time at Paris. The police officers have visited the pig-dealers, and have been satisfied that the pigs were fed with nothing but wholesome substances: the use of poison for rats, with which animals the places abounded, was interdicted, and every precaution taken that could be suggested. "What then," adds Mr. Cadet, "is this poison which is found in sausage-meats? Is it prussic acid? Is it a new matter? It is not the result of decomposition, or at least of putrefaction, because it exists in meats perfectly well preserved."

THE TAR OIL LIGHTS.—In a considerable district of the town lying on the west side of Tottenham Court Road, a very improved kind of street lamps have been introduced, which in the whiteness and intensity of their lights far exceed the street gas lights, under the same bulks of flame; each of these lamps being independent, there is no danger of a whole district being left in darkness at once, through an accidental or designed stoppage or destruction of the gas main, nor are the inhabitants burthened by any expense of service-pipes, and the many etceteras of that mode of lighting. On inquiry, we have learned that these lamps have been supplied by the Honourable Major Cochrane, under patents to his brother Lord Cochrane, and to himself: the former being, for the mode of distilling and managing the oil, and the latter, for the construction of a lamp, calculated for burning this pellucid and very volatile and inflammable oil, closely resembling, if not identically the same with purified naphtha, which oil, in its greatest perfection, is prepared in Scotland, at once from the coals, as is said, by a relative of Mr. Cochrane. The essential oil prepared from the gas-work tar is found, whenever the wicks of lamps are trimmed the least too high, to deposit carbon on the wicks, which the Scotch oil never does; and in such case to occasion lamps supplied therewith to smoke, and sometimes, owing to the very great volatility of this gas-work oil, a smoking lamp has been filled with explosive vapour, which has taken fire and destroyed the lamp glass: accidents which have never happened with the use of the Scotch oil. From the facility of preparing this oil at any colliery and in any quantity, and from the cheapness of its conveyance to town by the canals, we anticipate that this mode of lighting our streets and roads will, ere long, become very general.

THE PYROLIGNEOUS ACID.—At the last anniversary of the Whitehaven Philosophical Society, two specimens of meat, cured with the pyroligneous acid, were exhibited. These were prepared on the 7th of September, 1819. One was hung up at home, and the other sent out to the West Indies, to try the effect of climate upon it, and brought back on the return of the ship to that port. Both specimens were pronounced by all present who tasted them, to be perfectly fresh, sweet, and fit for use, after a lapse of 15 months.

AGRICULTURE.—Last year, Mr. Talla of Gateshead, Northumberland, transplanted from a seed bed to a piece of land worked by the spade, wheat, which he ranged into rows six inches apart: this yielded seventeen coombs per acre. Another piece of land, upon which the rows were planted twelve inches apart, yielded fifteen coombs. Another piece sown in drill, and a fourth in broad cast, yielded nineteen coombs per acre. The produce of this land, by ploughing, is usually about six coombs. A field of seven acres, in the county of Surry, was prepared last year by the spade for barley. The labourers earned in the winter at the rate of 15s. per week, twopence per rod being paid for digging; and the proprietor believes it would have cost him double the expence if he had ploughed it.

THE CANADIAN PILE OINTMENT.—For this "most extraordinary and most valuable discovery, the afflicted with piles are indebted to an able and humane *medical* man, who, during his travels through North America, made it his *constant* study to discover from the native Indians whatever he considered would contribute to the benefit of mankind. The *inestimable* receipt for making the Canadian Ointment, for the speedy and effectual cure of Piles, under which many thousands of his fellow creatures labour without relief, he was so lucky as to obtain from a native."—The proprietor "tried it, and found it to prove *completely* efficacious. It has since been the means of effecting *numerous* cures on persons most *dreadfully* afflicted by that most distressing disorder, the Piles. For that painful complaint, for which hitherto *nothing but palliatives* have been employed, with little or no effect; but by means of the CANADIAN PILE OINTMENT, a complete cure may be speedily effected.

"To confine the benefit of such a most valuable remedy to himself and friends, would indeed amount to a crime of the blackest hue; he has, therefore, *conscientiously* and *disinterestedly* discharged a duty by giving the afflicted with Piles an opportunity of curing themselves. In three or four days after using the remedy, the piles will completely disappear, never more to return *again!!*" Hence it appears that, like that most invaluable discovery of the wonderful properties of the Elephant's Milk, in the "effectual cure of a certain class of diseases," by the celebrated and humane physician, Dr. Campbell, the public are indebted to the natives of India for the valuable discovery of this infallible remedy for piles, and like the elephant's milk, we find, on analysis, that it is composed of articles to be found in the shops of every druggist in England!!! The composition of this wonderful discovery, the *Canadian* Ointment, is brimstone and grease!!! The common remedy for the disease to which dogs are subject, termed the mange. An ointment, composed of balsam of sulphur and spermaceti ointment, is a

common topical application for piles, and in recent cases, is generally beneficial. When the surface is inflamed, or the complaint is attended with much irritation, an ointment of brimstone is very likely to aggravate the disease very considerably, if not produce a serious degree of inflammation. The contents of a four shilling and sixpenny box cost the benevolent and disinterested proprietor about one penny!!!

TOWERS'S TONIC PILLS.—*For indigestion and bilious irregularities, irregular and defective appetite, nausea, sickness, a sense of load or oppression in the stomach (particularly after meals), flatulence, furred tongue, depression of spirits, sluggishness, drowsiness after meals, a weight or pressure over the eyes, derangement of the nervous system, palpitation of the heart, creeping chills, &c.*

The proprietor, whose *chemical* knowledge, although unacquainted with diseases, has enabled him to discover several very valuable remedies, declares that he wishes it to be *clearly* understood that the main objects he had in view, in inventing the tonic pills, were to "warm, comfort, and relieve the stomach in the *first* instance, and after a few hours to *relax* the bowels in a way so mild and gentle, as to resemble the natural efforts of the body, and not the effects of a medicine." "In some cases," says he, "no sensible effects may be produced, and yet, in a few days, the general health shall be found to be *materially* improved!!" He gives the purchaser of his nostrum the very sensible advice, "to *continually* bear in mind that much depends upon *his own* PRUDENCE, he should, therefore, studiously avoid whatever is found to disagree with him, except, of course, the tonic pills, for if they should *move* the bowels more than twice a day, it will be requisite for every one to ascertain the proper dose for his own individual constitution. With some persons, one pill will produce as great an effect as three with another, it is therefore advisable to abstain from eating for an hour after taking the pills. The surest signs of ultimate and permanent benefit the tonic pills afford, are the effects of *effectually* cleansing the system in the *first* instance, and afterwards their ceasing, in a great degree, to act as an opening medicine." When the bowels become irregular and *suddenly* relaxed, the learned proprietor recommends the pills to be discontinued, and a mixture of *rhubarb, ginger,* chalk, and cinnamon water taken; but if *nervous* symptoms, or *acute* SPASMODIC or FLATULENT pains be experienced, a teaspoonful or two of his valuable "Stomachic Essence, taken occasionally, will prove of the *utmost* service. This essence," he says, "possesses the power of comforting, without the heating or stimulating properties of *a cordial!!!*"

The Tonic Pills he also recommends for *common autumnal bowel complaints,* and "for a *physic,* when it seems desirable, in spring and autumn, and a remedy for piles!!!"

The proprietor concludes his dissertation with the following very valuable piece of information: "To ladies and *gentlemen* sending *him* a one pound note, medicines to the amount of *one guinea* will be forwarded without an extra charge for the box; and he takes this favourable opportunity to state that his medicines, in *large*-size packets, *are much more advantageous.*—If two pounds be sent then, the carriage of the medicine to *any part* of the kingdom shall be paid!!!"

On examining this "happy invention," we discover iron extract, and

essential oil of wormwood. It appears also to contain aloes; but the strong bitter and the essential oil of the wormwood so completely cover the taste, that we cannot positively say that it enters the composition; without it, the pills would not be purgative. The following composition is so very similar to it, that we defy a chemist to discover any difference between them.

Take of Carbonate of iron, one scruple,
Essential oil of wormwood, six drops,
Extract of wormwood, or of gentian root—aloes, *powdered, of each*, two drachms.

Mix, and form into a mass.

It is, in fact, the ecphractic pill of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, disguised with the essential oil of wormwood.

As a general tonic these pills are decidedly bad, and in the hands of ignorance may be productive of very serious mischief. Indigestion, for which the pills are chiefly recommended, arises from very opposite causes. In cases arising from increased excitement or morbid irritability of the stomach, iron and a potent bitter, by increasing the cause or by keeping up a feverish state of the organ, may produce organic mischief.

The frequency of scirrhosity of the pyloric extremity of the stomach, we attribute chiefly to the use of stimulating remedies of this kind. Biliary irregularities, for which they are also recommended, are the consequences of opposite states of the liver. In cases of chronic inflammation of the liver, scirrhosity or obstruction of the biliary duct, mad, indeed, must be the medical man who would recommend such a tonic. In cases of autumnal bowel complaints, in which there is either inflammation of the intestines, or a great disposition to it, such a remedy would, in a few hours, do irreparable injury. When the learned proprietor recommends his tonic pills as "good for piles," he must, of course, mean good for producing them; for in any case of piles, they would aggravate the disease. As "a physic, for spring and autumn," the pills are certainly very well calculated to produce the irruption of the skin, during the former season, and bowel complaints during the latter. The stomachic essence, which, he states, is not heating, and therefore proper for "acute spasmodic and flatulent pains," is composed of spirit of ammonia and oil of peppermint. In case the acute spasmodic pain should be the consequence of inflammatory action, which is generally the case, the effect of such a powerful stimulant, would, indeed, "be permanent." If a composition of the most powerful stimulants we possess, is not a *heating* medicine, what is? If the purchaser of the nostrums should bear in mind, that "much depends on his own prudence," he will soon consign his purchase to the fire.

ADVICE.

J. P. (Indigestion.) having received no benefit from a variety of tonic medicines, the Editors advise him to give the tincture of lupulin (noticed in the present number) a trial. He may also take, every other night, four grains of the blue pill, for about ten days, and keep the bowels in a regular state, by taking occasionally one or two teaspoonsful of the Epsom salt. They advise him to avoid malt liquor, wines, and green vegetables, and to take meat (the inside of roasted) only once a day. For instructions respecting exercise, &c. they refer him to the article Digestion, in the fifth and sixth numbers.

Juvenis of Norwich (Gleet.) may take the infusion of the Buchu leaves, as directed in the present number, if the Cubebs which he is taking should not succeed. The lotion may be continued.

X. Y. Z. (Indigestion.) Take three table spoonsful of the following mixture twice a day, and four grains of the blue pill every third night, for about ten days or a fortnight. Infuse three drachms of red rose leaves in half a pint of boiling water for an hour; then strain off the liquor, and add to it extract of rhatany (foreign) two drachms, compound tincture of cardamoms four drachms, and, in case of costiveness, two drachms, or more, of the sulphate of magnesia, so as to keep the bowels in a regular state. He should have noticed the state of the bowels, his age, and if he be subject to head ache or cough, and also the composition of the medicines he has taken. With respect to diet, &c. the Editors recommend him to follow the advice given above to *J. P.*

S. L. is evidently predisposed to consumption. When the pain occurs in the chest, he should lose about eight ounces of blood, take a tea-spoonful of the alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds, twice a day, in a glass of barley-water. If attended with cough, he may take two or three tea-spoonsful of the oxymel, in lieu of the alcaline wine, three or four times a day, in barley-water. If the pain should not give way to the loss of blood, a blister will be proper. He should avoid wine, spirits, and much exercise, but not entirely relinquish meat. Flannel next the skin is proper.

A. T. (Diseased Spine.) If an horizontal position on the back disturbs the health, by occasioning too great an influx of blood to the brain, the patient should make use of the bedstead which admits of being gradually raised, in which state the shoulders and head may be so supported as to prevent any additional pressure on the diseased part. If the frequent application of leeches evidently reduces her strength to an alarming degree, it should be discontinued. An issue on each side of the diseased part, a mixture of an infusion of Peruvian bark, and subcarbonate of soda, with the blue pill (four grains every other night for a fortnight), and a sufficient quantity of the Epsom salt to obviate costiveness, the Editors have found to answer best. One meal of animal food daily (with a proportion of vegetables) they have always found necessary.

J. B. (Encysted Tumour.) The case of J. B. is evidently an encysted tumour, termed the melliceris. The iodine has been found beneficial only in the enlargement of the thyroid gland, termed *wen*. No medicine, either topically applied, or through the medium of the constitution, will have any effect in dispersing it; the Editors therefore advise him to have it removed by a surgeon, before it becomes larger.

J. F. G. (Wen.) Take from fifty to sixty drops of the tincture of iodine twice a day, in a glass of water. This medicine is too mild to disturb the stomach or the general health. She may take it with great safety.

Cornelia. (Rheumatism.) The medicine C. proposes to take is a powerful poison, and would probably terminate the disease with life. The alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds is both safe and efficacious. It may be procured at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly, with full directions.

F. S. (Consumption of the Lungs.) Take from two to three tea-spoonsful of the oxymel of the colchicum seeds, three times a day, in a small wine-glassful of the decoction of the Iceland moss. A perpetual blister is no doubt very proper, and also flannel next the skin. A little animal food (the inside of roasted tender beef or mutton) or boiled fowl, may be taken once a day. The arrow-root jelly and asses' milk may be continued. She should have noticed the state of the pulse, stomach, bowels, and head, and also the appearance of what she brings up from the lungs, the cough during the night, age, &c.

"R. S."—"W. S."—"A miserable Wretch."—"A Dupe."—"Maria."—Jane W.—and L. F.—the Editors refer to the Appendix and Supplement to the Gazette of Health. The former contains the causes, treatment, &c. of the diseases peculiar to the male sex, and others which from motives of delicacy they do not notice in their regular numbers, and the latter of those to which females are liable. To Jane W. they recommend the tincture of cubebs, two tea-spoonsful of which she may take twice or three times a day, in a wine-glassful of a decoction of marshmallow roots.

J. J. of Islington—W. R. of Leeds—S. J. of Bath—W. F. of Sheffield—and F. R. of Birmingham—will receive answers to their letters by post, about the 3d of April.

ADDITION

TO NO. 64 OF THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

THE NOSTRUM TRADE.—Since we embarked in this publication, we have received so many threats of prosecution from the attorneys of irregular quacks, and of nostrum-mongers, for the *liberty* we have taken with their professional characters and wonder-working specifics, that we have latterly paid them no attention. About sixteen years since, an action was brought by Dr. Brodum against Drs. Bradley and Batty, and the proprietors, printers, and publishers of the Medical and Physical Journal, for a libel on his character as a *physician, and on his advertised medicine.* The editors and the proprietors of the Journal, by the advice of their lawyer, determined to justify. The learned barrister whom they afterwards consulted, gave his decided opinion that the article in the Journal was a libel; that Dr. Brodum, although possessing an honorary degree, and although they might produce evidence of incompetency to exercise the office of a physician, with justice to his patients, was, doubtless, in the eye of the law, a regular physician. Drs. Bradley and Batty being licentiates of the College of Physicians, applied to that body for their support; but they declined to interfere, observing, the Journal had patronised a nostrum for gout, and that they should have recollected the old adage, "look before you leap." Their applications having been treated with such indifference in this as well as in a higher quarter, they and the gentlemen, amounting to about twenty, agreed to compromise the business, one condition of which was, to insert in the subsequent number of the Journal, a sketch of Dr. Brodum, drawn up by his attorney. By this statement, it appeared that the Doctor had received a medical education, equal if not superior to that of the learned editors; that he was as competent to decide on the merits of a work on any branch of medicine as themselves; indeed so highly complimentary was the article, that some of the subscribers expected to have seen the Doctor's name on the cover of the following number, as a coadjutor of Dr. Bradley and Dr. Batty!!

No circumstance, connected with this work, gave us more pleasure than the information of Mr. Rymer having commenced an action against us, for a libel on his professional character as a surgeon, and on his Cordine Tincture. We never thought of a compromise; but conscious of having stated facts, and of having no other object in view than the good of the community, we embraced every opportunity of keeping up the courage of the plaintiff and his solicitor, in order that we might have the satisfaction of justifying our criticisms on his nostrum, and of ascertaining how far such a traffic was protected by law. The advice to plead in mitigation of damages, given by a special pleader, we peremptorily rejected; we persisted, from the first intimation of legal proceeding, in

the determination to justify, and the following plea was accordingly filed:—

That such medicine is not a remedy for "*disorders of the head, stomach, and bowels;*" that the same is a very powerful stimulant, and therefore improper, and not a remedy for, but very injurious in divers "*disorders of the head,*" to wit, inflammation of the brain, congestion of the vessels of the head, inflammatory excitement and acute hydrocephalus; and divers "*disorders of the stomach,*" to wit, inflammatory excitement of the stomach, inflammation of the stomach, and ulceration of the stomach; and divers "*disorders of the bowels,*" to wit, inflammation of the bowels, introsusception of the intestines and dysentery; that it is an injudicious composition for "*fevers, pestilential sore throat, apoplectic predisposition, asthma,*" and the said other diseases of inflammatory excitement; that it is an improper medicine for "*dyspepsy,*" attended with inflammatory action, or morbid excitement of the stomach, or tendency to apoplexy, "*inflammatory gout, spasms of the intestines,*" attendant on inflammation of the intestines, "*broken constitutions,*" the consequence of ulceration of the stomach or lungs; first stage of "*scarlet fever;*" first stage of "*putrid fever;*" "*palpitation of heart,*" from plethora; "*vertigo,*" attended with plethora; "*apoplectic habits, costiveness, lassitude,*" from congestion of the vessels of the brain; "*faintness,*" from overdistention of the aorta; "*belly-ache of children, from wind and spasms,*" attended with inflammatory action; "*jaundice,*" from inflammation of the liver, or obstruction of the biliary duct, &c. &c.; "*palsy and paralytic affections,*" the sequels of apoplexy; "*retching,*" attendant on inflammation of the stomach or brain; "*yellowness of eyes and skin,*" attendant on inflammation of the liver; "*hiccup,*" attendant on inflammation of the stomach or diaphragm; "*female obstructions and suppressions, morbid irregularities about the turn of life,*" attended with plethora, or a tendency to apoplexy.

The defence was conducted by Mr. Phillips, of King Street, Covent Garden, a solicitor of great professional abilities, perseverance, and integrity, who very judiciously retained Messrs. Scarlett and Hutchinson.

On the 6th of March, the cause was tried at Guildhall, before the Lord Chief Justice and a *special* jury. Mr. Gurney appeared for Mr. Rymer, who, after the usual introductory ceremony, opened the lawyer's brief, and by imposing attitude, facial arrangement, and elevated voice, gave every possible effect to that most ingenious and liberal production.

Mr. Rymer, the plaintiff, he declared to be an old experienced surgeon of great respectability, residing at Ryegate, where he had exercised his honourable profession for many years, with great credit to himself and justice to his numerous patients: that he was patentee of a most valuable and useful medicine, a medicine which he in a long practice had found to prove highly beneficial in *several* diseases: that it had effected many cures, of which he should produce the most satisfactory evidence. The defendant, Dr. Reece, was the editor of a periodical work, named The Gazette of Health, in the 42d number of which, he had published a most unmerited and scandalous attack on the properties of the medicine, and the professional character of his respectable

client: that in giving the said false statement he was actuated by interested motives: that "in running down" the merits of the Cardiac Tincture, his object was to introduce some other medicine, from the sale of which he would receive benefit. As a proof of the *interested* views of the editor, he emphatically observed, *the very same number contains* a most scurrilous sketch of Dr. Ainslie, than whom there was not a more able physician, learned and good man, in this kingdom; he was an ornament to the profession. The Doctor was indeed, in the opinion of Mr. Gurney, as respectable a practitioner, and as injured a man, as the experienced Surgeon Rymer.

The part of the article Mr. Rymer and his able legal advisers had pronounced libellous, was read, to the no small amusement of the jury, &c.; his own representation of his coat of arms, with which he sealed his medicine, to *prevent imposition*, also occasioned much merriment.

Mr. Balfour, clerk to the navy office, proved that Mr. Rymer had been appointed surgeon to a ship in his Majesty's service, in the year 1780.

Mr. Stevens, clerk in the office of Messrs. Marsh and Co. said that Mr. Rymer continued to receive half-pay as a navy surgeon.

Mr. Charles Whithorne produced the patent granted by his late Majesty to Mr. Rymer, surgeon, &c. his heirs and assigns, for his fortunate discovery,—the Cardiac Tincture. During the reading of the specification, the court was frequently in a roar of laughter. Of the consistency of the composition, the jury, and indeed every person in court, appeared as capable to form an opinion as the learned counsel, or the experienced Surgeon Rymer. The effect it produced on the court was evidently not very agreeable to the Surgeon's Advocates.

Mr. Steele, an apothecary of Ryegate, as if determined to support the inflexibility of his name, courageously entered the box, in defence of the *professional* character of Mr. Rymer. He stated, that he had known Mr. Rymer twenty years; that he had been *practising surgery in Ryegate about that time, and that he had met him in consultation.* On cross-examination by Mr. Scarlett, he admitted, apparently with reluctance, that he had never prescribed the celebrated Cardiac Tincture; that it could not be proper for diseases so opposite in their nature as those for which it was recommended, and that it could not possess properties so opposite as those noticed in the Surgeon's advertisement. He was not examined as to the virtues of the articles specified in the specification, or the pharmaceutical or chemical character of the compound. He confessed enough to confirm the justness of our remarks on the probable effects of the nostrum, under certain circumstances, or in different stages of the same disease. The learned counsel thought it also unnecessary to question him as to the other nostrums Surgeon Rymer prepares, viz. a bilious pill, a remedy for consumption, a tooth-powder, &c.!!!

The *Rev. Mr. Jordan*, the classical Vicar of Hoo*, near Rochester,

* We understand this name was given to the parish, in consequence of its being very much frequented by owls.

swore, that he had received benefit from Mr. Rymer's Cardiac Tincture, in a case of palsy of the head, many years ago. He had given him permission to publish his case. On cross-examination, he confessed he was ignorant of the cause of the palsy; all he knew was, that the palsy was in *his head*.—(Paralized brain, we presume!!) He thought it was from determination of blood to the brain. He was of a spare habit, and *long* neck!! The name of palsy of the head was given to the complaint by himself!!

Richard Turner Pooler, followed the Vicar of Hoo.—He stated, that he had received considerable benefit from the Cardiac Tincture, when afflicted with indigestion and *general* debility of the system, in the year 1797. On cross-examination, he admitted that his complaints were produced by Green Tea, which he left off, when he commenced taking the Cardiac Tincture, and that he also took an extra glass of Port wine!!!

Miss *Barbara Pickford*, a bashful maid of forty, of a very prepossessing appearance, and with the diffidence peculiar to her age, stated, that she had derived benefit from the Cardiac Tincture, in a case of spasm in the stomach, the cause of which she either did not know, or would not confess. She admitted that Mr. Rymer did not attend her family at that or any other time, and that she was induced to give the nostrum a trial, in consequence of the Surgeon's advertisement. She and her family had been always attended by Mr. Martin, a respectable surgeon of Ryegate, who, we understand, had never the honour of meeting Mr. Rymer in consultation; and who, like every man of science, abhors every thing in the shape of quackery, either regular or irregular.

Mr. *Cresswell*, servant to Messrs. Dicey and Co., the agents of Mr. Rymer, for *all* his nostrums, swore, that the sale of the celebrated Cardiac Tincture, within the last year, had fallen off. He was not questioned as to the sale of the Surgeon's other nostrums.

Mr. Gurney, looking towards Mr. Scarlett, observed, that the evidence of the last witness closed his case. This he did, with an expression of countenance that clearly indicated that the evidence brought forward by the attorney or his client, and the scientific specification of Surgeon Rymer, had not kept up the effect of his luminously argumentative, and very liberal address, on the minds of the Jury. The countenance of his prompter, the attorney, gave us the idea, that he was aware that the evidence had completely failed to establish the leading *features* of Mr. Gurney's encheering speech, viz. that our attack on the professional character, and wonder-working Cardiac Tincture of Surgeon Rymer, was *wantonly* cruel and *interested*.

Mr. Scarlett, after observing to Mr. Phillips, that the action only merited contempt and derision, and that to call a witness to confirm the justness of our criticism on the Cardiac Tincture, and accuracy of our analysis, would be giving it a degree of consequence it by no means deserved, with his usual ease and ability thus addressed the Jury:—Have we then, gentlemen, lived to the day, when notorious nostrum-mongers may bring actions for criticisms on their infallible specifics, and on their practices? Are men of science to be brought before courts of justice for ridiculing their empiricism, and pointing out to the unwary the hazard of taking their deleterious drugs? This gentleman had sent forth into the world a panacea for disorders of the most opposite

symptoms and qualities, holding out *health* and *vigour* to the patient, in cases where the medicine might produce sudden death, and was not a man of science to be at liberty to detect the imposition, and warn the public against the danger they incurred? Such spirited publications were of vast public benefit, because they enabled persons who had not access to large medical and scientific libraries, to detect fraud and imposition. The supposed libel was nothing more than a *fair criticism* upon the plaintiff's quackery, and if it was mixed with a little ridicule, it was the more likely to be salutary in its effect. In this point of view the case fell precisely within the rule laid down by Lord Ellenborough, in Sir John Carr v. Hood; in which the plaintiff was ridiculed as the *jaunting-car*. In that case a witness was called to prove, that in consequence of reading a criticism in *The Edinburgh Review*, upon the plaintiff's book, he had declined reading his works, upon which the learned judge congratulated him upon the escape he had had, and told him, that he was the better for it. So in this case, how many people must be the better for not having taken the plaintiff's nostrum, in consequence of the warning voice of the defendant? The plaintiff professed to cure no less than 16 *mortal* diseases, by the all-powerful influence of his tincture; and amongst its other virtues, it was calculated to cure *timidity!* Would that, if such were its virtues, the plaintiff would be good enough to ship off a cargo of his medicine to the kingdom of Naples, and inspire its inhabitants to the vigorous assertion of its political rights. On this occasion, he could not refrain from relating a story of the celebrated Dr. Solomon, who amassed an immense fortune by his Balm of Gilead, which he sold at 10s. 6d. a bottle. The doctor had shipped a cargo of it for America, estimating each bottle at one shilling, in order to evade the duty. The custom-house officer suspecting that this was the doctor's object, and that the medicine was worth a great deal more, made a seizure of the cargo; and the doctor refusing to pay the duty, he said he would let the officer have the cargo at a shilling a bottle, and the officer accordingly took it. The doctor then shipped another and a larger cargo, and the same consequence followed, the officer taking the cargo at a shilling a bottle. He immediately opened a warehouse himself for the sale of Dr. Solomon's Balm of Gilead, but finding that he could not sell it for half-a-guinea a bottle, began to suspect that it was not worth so much, and, upon a communication with the doctor, he confessed the fact, and boasted that the officer could not sell it, for that he, the doctor, could, by his advertisements, declare that it was not genuine; adding, that he was very well paid for his medicine at *a shilling a bottle*, for that all the medicine he had made, did not cost him more than *two puncheons of rum*, by which he had amassed an immense fortune, and purchased a large estate. Were quacks, therefore, to continue their impositions on the public with impunity, and were men of science to be punished for exposing their tricks to ridicule? The subject of such quackery had been most admirably ridiculed by a celebrated writer, whose writings became more valuable as they grew older. Dr. Goldsmith, in his Chinese Letters, speaking of quacks, said, "When I consider the assiduity of this profession, their benevolence amazes me. They not only in general give their medicines for half value, but use the most persuasive remonstrances to induce the sick to come and be cured.

Sure there must be something strangely obstinate in an English patient, who refuses so much health upon such easy terms! Does he take a pride in being bloated with a dropsy? Does he find pleasure in the alternations of an intermittent fever, or feel as much satisfaction in nursing up his gout, as he found pleasure in acquiring it? He must; otherwise he would never reject such repeated assurances of instant relief. What can be more convincing than the manner in which the sick are invited to be well? The Doctor first begs the most earnest attention of the public to what he is going to propose; he solemnly affirms the pill was never found to want success; he produces a list of those who have been rescued from the grave by taking it. Yet, notwithstanding all this, there are many here who now and then think proper to be sick! Only sick! did I say? There are some who even think proper to die. Yes, by the head of Confucius, they die, though they might have purchased the health-restoring specific for half-a-crown at every corner." Would the jury then, in the present case, give the plaintiff a verdict, for that which was but a legitimate exposure of his quackery, without malice, or any ill intention imputable to the defendant?

Mr. Scarlett did not condescend to notice the scurrilous part of Mr. Gurney's address; he treated it with that contempt which, on the minds of men of any discernment or feeling, has the most mortifying effect, viz. silence. Indeed, as a gentleman, we could not expect Mr. Scarlett even to glance at his insinuations.

As soon as Mr. Scarlett finished his address, the foreman of the Jury, apparently with the intention to save the Lord Chief Justice the trouble of summing up, or commenting on the evidence, gave a verdict for the defendant.

Mr. Gurney immediately rose, and with an air of triumph, emphatically observed to the Judge, that the defendant had not answered their charge of *a libel on the* PROFESSIONAL *character* of Mr. Rymer; and therefore, on that charge his client was entitled to a verdict. The defendant had stated that he, Surgeon Rymer, was no doubt as much entitled to the rank or denomination of Surgeon as that of Esquire. He defied the defendant or his attorney to prove that Surgeon Rymer had styled himself Esquire in an advertisement, or in any of his publications.

Mr. Phillips immediately pointed out a letter in the Surgeon's Treatise on the Cardiac Tincture, which was addressed to James Rymer, Esq.!! This letter, Mr. Gurney observed, was not written by Mr. Rymer!! It was published by Mr. Rymer; and if he was aware that he was not entitled to the distinction, why did he not erase it? The publication of a title by himself, although given by a correspondent, in our humble opinion, is equal to the assumption of it; at any rate, it implies that he was conscious of deserving it. The Lord Chief Justice observed, that every person who possesses a smattering knowledge of medicine, now styles himself a surgeon; and as for esquires, every person above a menial servant is so styled, and there was no doubt that many who were styled surgeons, were more entitled to the denomination of esquire than that of surgeon. In summing up, his Lordship made some very pertinent remarks on the baneful traffic of quackery, and very emphatically observed, (as we understood his Lordship) that *regular* surgeons do not deal in nostrums or patent medicines; and when a surgeon

embarks in such a traffic, he could not see how his *professional* character could be separated from his nostrum, or from the practice connected with it. The Jury, without the least hesitation, repeated their verdict for the defendant. Thus ended the boasted threats of the plaintiff, the liberal and elegant production of his attorney, termed a brief, and the spirited address of Counsellor Gurney!!! Instead of a verdict for two thousand pounds, the plaintiff has to pay his own and the defendant's costs, amounting to about two hundred pounds!!

We determined to defend our critical remarks on the nostrum, in a manner becoming members of a *liberal* profession. That the question as to the legality of quackery, or the protection of it by the Legislature, might be properly brought before the Court, we desired Mr. Phillips to subpœna two physicians of eminence, to whom we were not personally known, to justify our plea; and an able chemist, to whom we were also unknown, to speak of our analysis, and the scientific or chemical character of the surgeon's specification. We named Dr. Powell, because he has frequently given his evidence in the Court of King's Bench, on medical subjects, and always as a man of science and independence. We gave the name of Dr. Paris, because he had noticed the composition of Mr. Rymer's Cardiac Tincture in a late publication. We mentioned the name of Mr. Hume of Long Acre, because we considered him to be the first pharmaceutical chemist in this country, and a man of the strictest sense of honour.

Such mode of proceeding would not answer the purpose of the plaintiff and his attorney.

Their object was clearly to get a verdict, honestly if they could, but to get it was their determination. The brief was accordingly replete with scurrility and falsehood, and to give it every possible effect, they fixed on Mr. Gurney, who certainly did them justice, in supporting the *independence*, if not the *respectability* of the bar, and in extra-exertion to make the "worse appear the better cause." This "learned gentleman" boldly asserted, on the authority of his brief, in his peculiar delicate and elegant style of expression, that Dr. Reece was interested in running down Mr. Rymer's Cardiac Tincture; he had a medical hall, where a substitute might be obtained; and that he attacked the professional characters of the first medical men, from a similar honourable motive. Now had Dr. Reece been actuated by such a wish, in giving an analysis of Mr. Rymer's medicine, and in pointing out the mischief, that so powerful a stimulus is capable of producing in different stages of the diseases for which it is recommended, and in every stage of them, under certain circumstances, with the view of substituting another medicine for it, or of injuring the professional character of Mr. Rymer to benefit himself, why did not the attorney enable his counsel to substantiate those serious charges? Such evidence would, indeed, have entitled Mr. Rymer to a verdict, and render us deserving of the severest reprehension. The non-production of such proof is direct evidence of their not having been able to procure it, and the base insinuation proved, as a learned counsel observed, the badness of their cause. Indeed, how could such a cause be otherwise supported? The article on Surgeon Rymer's Cardiac Tincture, which his legal adviser,

and a *Mrs.* Fisher, pronounced to be a libel, concludes with a receipt for a *Cardiac Stomachic Tincture*, as a substitute for it, in cases of indigestion, from direct debility of the stomach, the ingredients for which may be obtained at the shop of any druggist. How then could Mr. Gurney, who had read the article, have the impudence to assert, in the face of the court, such an egregious falsehood? As to the biographical sketch of Dr. Ainslie, we are at a loss to conjecture what it had to do with the merits of Mr. Rymer's action. The learned counsel evidently seized with avidity the opportunity it afforded him, of delivering an eulogium on the professional acquirements and private virtues of that physician. Unfortunately for this *able* physician, the editors of the newspapers did not pay that respect to the learned counsel's panegyric, as to give it a place in their columns. That Mr. Gurney, when decorated with the paraphernalia of the bar, and protected by the independence of the court, is a competent judge of the qualifications of a physician, we must not perhaps doubt. If our biographical sketch of Dr. Ainslie be a libel on his professional character, why has not Mr. Gurney persuaded his friend to follow the example of Surgeon Rymer, and afford him another opportunity to display his legal knowledge and eloquence in the Court of King's Bench? Whatever Mr. Gurney may be in that court, we can tell him, when he enters on medical subjects, he is "*vox et preterea nihil.*" As a classic and a mathematician, we entertain great respect for Dr. Ainslie; but notwithstanding Mr. Gurney's eulogium, we presume to maintain the opinion we have given in the life of Dr. Ainslie, that a man may be a good classic and an able mathematician, and yet a *bad physician.* If a knowledge of the classics or of mathematics is sufficient to form a physician, why not also a lawyer, whose success but too often depends on his power of chattering, or what is vulgarly termed the "gift of the gab?" Cambridge, of which Dr. Ainslie is a graduate, is not a school of medicine. A knowledge of the classics, which is taught there, no doubt forms a good basis for medicine; but, as a late learned divine observed, "the misfortune is, too many are satisfied with the degree of M.D., conferred on them by this university, and instead of qualifying themselves to exercise the office of physician, at a *proper* school, are content with a superficial view of *ancient* medicine, thinking it sufficient to be able to talk of it, in the slang phraseology of the University. If a physician be unacquainted with chemistry, can he venture to prescribe chemical preparations? These articles are unquestionably the most potent that are employed in medicine, and in obstinate or desperate cases are often necessary, and if a physician dare not prescribe them, because he is ignorant how far one may decompose the other, can he say that the patients who have died under his care, received *all* the benefit medicine was capable of affording?" We also presume to contend that a physician should be acquainted with surgery and pharmacy, and that he should be *practically* acquainted with diseases, before he is allowed to exercise the office of a physician. Is this then a libel on Dr. Ainslie? We have not stated that Dr. Ainslie is not qualified to practise physic; but to say that a young man, fresh from an university, where even the rudiments of medicine are not taught, who cannot recognise a disease at the bed-side

of patients, and who withal is ignorant of pharmacy, is qualified to prescribe for a patient, and is entitled to the customary fee for his advice, is, in our humble opinion, a libel on common sense.

If Mr. Gurney had received the advantage of a classical education, at an English university, either Oxford or Cambridge, he would have known, that by its very foundation, it was chiefly intended to form the mind of the statesman, the divine, and, if he pleases, the lawyer. A *practical* art, such as medicine, never entered into the views of its founders, and the modern addition of medical lectureships, without the advantages of an hospital, is, as a late writer observes, like putting short frocks on *old women*, or a wig and gown on a prating fool. Respect due to a learned gentleman of the bar, and so competent a judge of scurrility, and the qualifications of a physician, as Mr. Gurney has proved himself to be, we hope will justify, in the opinion of our readers, this long digression from the subject of Surgeon Rymer's action.

The learned counsel, on finishing his eulogium on Dr. Ainslie, with increased animation, and with a fresh arrangement of features, expressive of astonishment, (on tiptoe with hands extended) acquainted the Gentlemen of the Jury, that the said Dr. Reece, who had loaded the most eminent medical men, such as Dr. Ainslie, Surgeon Rymer, and others, with the most scurrilous abuse, was a man of celebrity as the accoucheur to the late celebrated *Prophetess Joanna Southcote!!!* We had been previously informed (no doubt for some honorable purpose) that the attorney had introduced into the brief "a very good thing;" and to give full effect to this "very good thing," he would give the brief to Mr. Gurney.—Mr. Gurney, certainly much to his credit (for exertion even in a bad cause is creditable to an advocate), communicated this precious piece of information, in a manner that seemed to convey the idea that he felt it was "a very good thing," and likely to operate on the minds of the Jury in favour of his client! The learned gentleman, in his eagerness to throw something like a slur on the character of the defendant, had evidently forgotten that he was addressing a *special* Jury, gentlemen who were as capable of distinguishing scurrilous declamation from just or scientific criticism as the learned counsel. To them the drift of his gratuitous communication was obvious. They received it with evident marks of contempt. To an Old Bailey Jury, "the good thing" might have proved amusing, and they might have paid him the compliment of its having been "well said;" but with a special jury, scurrility, vulgarity and falsehood, convey the idea that the cause must be bad indeed that requires such support, and especially when it has no connexion whatever with its merits. Had we been in court when the learned gentleman so exultingly introduced this subject, we should certainly have addressed the Judge on the impropriety of introducing such irrelevant matter. We should certainly not have submitted tamely to an insult *in* court, which the learned gentleman dared not have offered us *out* of court. The independence of a court of law or justice, should certainly be supported by the bar; but we conceive it is the duty of the Judge to protect that independence from abuse. If a counsel goes beyond the proper boundary of independence, viz. propriety, he mixes himself, as it were, with the party whose cause he advocates, and as such, we consider the conduct of Mr. Gurney as liable to our animadversions

as that of Surgeon Rymer. Mr. Gurney must be aware that the editors of newspapers are great sticklers for the independence of the press, and claim the right of publishing the observations made in court by the gentlemen of the bar, and that Medical men are too independent in mind to allow any man to attack their professional characters unjustly with impunity: but as one of the leading counsels very justly observed to the defendant, some men may say any thing, in court and out of court, with impunity, and of that number, which at the bar is very small indeed, *in our opinion*, Mr. Gurney is one. It is perhaps fortunate for that few, that the wig and cane have been abandoned by physicians, for an irritable physician, or one who does not possess the philosophical coolness or *manly* courage of Mr. Gurney, might be put so far off his guard, by insulting remarks or insinuations, as to bring his paraphernalia into use, and give rise to actions of Wig *v.* Wig, and Cane *versus* Back. Such conduct in a court of justice or law, would certainly be very indecorous, to say the best of it; but "Nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit;" and Mr. Gurney would do right to keep in mind this line as read by a man not so *bold* or good a linguist as himself, viz. "No mortal is *always* in a saw-pit." But whether in or out of a saw-pit, Mr. Gurney is Mr. Gurney. The assertion that Dr. Reece was accoucheur to the late Joanna Southcote is not a fact. The learned counsel having, on two former occasions, made this declaration in court, we suspect the impression on his mind was produced by the disappointment he experienced from the result of that case. That he was one of the number who was looking forward to that happy period termed the Millennium! In order to appease his wrath, or quiet his feelings, we hope our readers will pardon another digression from the subject of Surgeon Rymer's action, to give a "*brief*" statement of facts: Dr. Reece's visit to Joanna Southcote was *professional only;* it was such as he considers himself bound to make to any fellow creature afflicted with disease. With her prophecies, or religious tenets, he did not trouble his head, nor was any thing said to him respecting them. Ten medical men had attended, seven of whom had pronounced her pregnant. Dr. Reece in his letter to his friend, by whose desire he visited her, (which was afterwards published) stated, "That the symptoms of pregnancy are very ambiguous: that when certain symptoms occurred, as enlargement of the uterus and the mammary glands, with nausea, and the symptoms detailed by Mrs. Southcote, the *inference* was, that the person was pregnant." He stated that "she declared herself to have been advanced a week or two beyond four months, and this the size of the uterus confirmed." Dr. R. also stated that "he was not allowed the examination *per vaginam*, by which the *fact*, as to pregnancy, was *only* to be ascertained." He concludes his letter with the friendly caution, "be aware of false prophets." Dr. Sims contended that the enlargement of the uterus was from diseased structure, on account of her age; but he admitted that in case she had been a *young woman*, he might have pronounced her to be pregnant. Cases being on record of women having been pregnant at a more advanced period of life, Dr. Reece did not allow the circumstance to influence his opinion. Dr. R. did not see Mrs. Southcote for four or five months after his examination, when he obtained permission to make another examination, after which, he stated to her followers in the anti-chamber, that

the tumour had subsided, and that she was evidently *not* pregnant. He was told that Mr. Wetherell, Mr. Foster, and Mr. Phillips, who had been in the practice of midwifery many years, had examined her a few days previous to that visit, and declared her to be pregnant, each having distinctly felt the motion of the fœtus. On opening the body, there was no vestige of the tumour, which all had distinctly traced, and which Dr. Sims described in the letter he sent to the editor of a daily paper.

The uterus was in a healthy state. Indeed, nothing appeared to account for her sufferings, or for her dissolution. Dissection threw no light whatever on the case. Now, as Dr. Adams, a physician of great eminence, Mr. Wetherell, Mr. Foster, Mr. Phillips, and two other respectable surgeon-accoucheurs, had positively declared Mrs. Southcote to be pregnant, why should Dr. Reece's name alone be brought forward, who only pointed out an *inference*, which the symptoms (so far as he was allowed to ascertain them) justified? The name of Joanna Southcote scarcely ever appeared in the public prints without that of Dr. Reece. Dr. Reece had instituted a periodical work (the Medical Observer), which by exposing the artifices and disgraceful practices of regular and irregular quacks, and a pamphlet on the State of Medicine in Great Britain, had excited the hostility of a numerous set of practitioners, particularly the *interested* supporters of vaccination, who eagerly embraced the favourable opportunity of assailing him in the public prints, and of representing him as the principal actor in a deception bordering on blasphemy. Dr. Reece treated their attacks with silent contempt*. He was blamed, and we admit very

* The combined attack on Dr Reece totally failed to produce any effect on the minds of his connexion, or those who *knew* him. He continued to enjoy the full confidence of his patients, to the great mortification of many of his assailants. The late Professor Cullen frequently observed to his class, that abuse, or an erroneous opinion, has a good effect on medical men, by making them more circumspect in their conduct, and more cautious in practice. If Dr. Reece subjected himself to censure by incautious opinion he gave, he hopes his admonitors will profit by it. To him it has proved an instructive lesson; or, as the late Professor Cullen observed, a lesson of real *practical* utility. Experience has confirmed the truth of the opinion he gave of the preventive power of vaccination, which at the time was so exceedingly offensive to the supporters of that trade, that it did not secure *all* systems from the contagion of small pox; but that in those who had been vaccinated, when they were attacked by small pox, the disease was particularly mild, the eruption often dying away before suppuration. No circumstance has tended to prejudice the public against cow pox, more than the violent manner (to say the best of their conduct,) in which it was defended against the exposures of the *antivaccinists*. The conduct of the leaders of the latter was no less violent, and was very justly condemned by the liberal part of the profession, who were engaged in collecting *facts* respecting the disease, for their own government. All medical men of candour and experience admit, that cow pox mitigates or destroys the virulence of small pox; and that it will secure 99 out of 100 against small pox contagion for life. It is, therefore, a discovery of great importance to the human race.

justly so, for not having attended to her declaration of being inspired. To the dreams and wanderings of a fanatic, few medical men, we presume, would pay attention. He was desired to attend to the state of her body, and not to that of her mind. His visits were professional only, and if his opinion had the influence on Mr. Gurney, of exciting great expectations in his mind, he is very sorry for it. He begs to assure him, that had he known that his letter would have been published in the public prints, he would never have written it. No man acquainted with midwifery will blame Dr. Reece for the opinion he gave, at a time when it was supposed, that she was only gone about four months, and without the proper examination. The late Drs. Denman, Osborne, and Clarke, the first accoucheurs this or any other country has produced, never ventured to give an opinion as to pregnancy till after the sixth month, and even then not a *positive* one. They have often confessed they were very frequently deceived by symptoms.

If Mr. Gurney supposes that medicine is brought to perfection, let him consult his friend, Dr. Ainslie, and seven leading physicians of London, on an internal complaint, and he will find that every one will give a different opinion. Indeed, those who so unmercifully attacked Dr. Reece, would, as the editors of the Edinburgh Review observed, "do right by looking homeward." Does a day pass over their heads in which they do not give an erroneous opinion? Even Mr. Gurney himself, with all the powerful assistance of Chitty and other expounders of the law, is not celebrated for *always* giving a correct opinion. The pathognomonic or characteristic symptoms of diseases are not yet settled by acts of parliament, or so clearly defined by authors as points of law.

The above explanation we consider due to Mr. Gurney, that he may not, in future, blame us for the cruel disappointment he experienced on the termination of Mrs. Southcote's case. On referring to the letter which appeared in the newspapers on the 26th Aug. 1814, or to a work, entitled, "A Narrative of the Circumstances that attended the last Illness of Mrs. Southcote," page 19, he will find our statement correct. As to ourselves, we require no justification of the part we took in that affair. No medical man of candour and experience will condemn us for the opinion we gave, and no man can accuse us of having been actuated by any unworthy motive. Our attendance was gratuitous, and if the result was gratifying to those who differ with us in opinion, as to the proper qualifications of a physician, whom we by no means consider enemies (for they, as well as ourselves, have a right to maintain their own opinion with warmth) all we shall say is,

> "Lie on, while our revenge shall be
> To speak the very truth of thee."

Mr. Hume, who was in court, would have proved that our analysis of the Cardiac Tincture was correct, and consequently, that the nostrum did contain a potent article (the sulphuric acid), which does not appear in the specification, although the specification was delivered on oath. He would also have proved that the recipe was ridiculous, and that nothing in it entitled Mr. Rymer to a patent. The only object of government in granting patents to secure the profits of a medicine to the inventor for

a limited time, is, that on the expiration of the period, the receipt should become public property. Now, if the medicine cannot be made according to the specification, what advantage does the public derive from the patent? So preposterous is the surgeon's specification, that if it were sent to be compounded to the shops of twenty chemists, we have no hesitation in stating, that the compounds would all differ. If it were sent to Apothecaries' Hall, it would be returned as unintelligible. Dr. Powell, would, no doubt, have justified our plea, and in stronger terms than we employed, have condemned the composition as a popular remedy for the long list of diseases for which it is recommended. Every man is not so clever as the Vicar of Hoo, as to be capable of distinguishing palsy in the head from softness or deficiency of brain, or as the blushing maid, of discriminating spasms from inflammatory or increased excitement, from diminished excitement or from spasms the consequence of gin-drinking, or organic mischief.

The conduct of Dr. Powell, on this occasion, was exceedingly liberal; we wish we could say as much of that of Dr. Paris. This gentleman, like Mr. Gurney, did not approve of our exposition of what he considers regular or legitimate medicine. Dr. Paris had been told by a learned counsel, that a physician was not bound to attend on such an occasion by a subpœna, inasmuch as it was an *opinion* that was required, and not positive evidence of a fact. For an opinion, he contended, that a physician should be well paid; and very kindly intimated, that a physician had been paid at the rate of £25 a-day for attendance on a trial, where an opinion was required. As to the effects of stimulants, even in inflammatory complaints, physicians of great experience differ. On our calling on him, he observed, that he had been insulted by sending a shilling with the subpœna; we presented him with a one pound note, which he most graciously and smilingly introduced into his fee-pocket!! Now, we firmly believe, that no other physician in this metropolis would have taken a pound note from a medical man on such an occasion. Dr. Powell, like ourselves, considered the cause in a public point of view, and one of great public interest. He therefore came forward like a man of science and public spirit. From Dr. Powell we had no right to expect any thing like friendship; for, on his translation of the London Pharmacopœia we had been as severe (as Mr. Gurney expressed himself) as on any production. He is also a leading Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, whose bye laws we have so frequently condemned. Dr. Paris, however, had no doubt some cogent reasons for avoiding an examination on the properties of the Cardiac Tincture, and the nature of the maladies for which it was recommended. For this, we conceive, there was no just reason, for we presume, Mr. Gurney would not have ventured to have interrogated him as to his Pharmacologia, or the *real* proprietor of a paltry preparation of senna, so highly extolled in his work for domestic purposes. The Doctor, no doubt, acted wisely by looking homeward. One of his objections, we believe, was, his having stated in the Pharmacologia, that Rymer's Cardiac Tincture, is a tincture of Jamaica pepper!! Instead of "*wrangling*" about medical distinctions, and university slang phraseology, we would advise this learned gentleman to give a scientific or classical explanation of the term *quack*, and not wrangle with men who are greatly his superiors in

every department of medicine and in general science. According to this gentleman's ideas of the effects of different remedies, it is of little consequence in whose hands the practice of medicine is placed. Experience will, no doubt, teach him better; " a little learning," &c. &c. When we were informed that Surgeon Rymer sought a compensation for the injury he had sustained, from our attack on his " *professional character*," we thought it our duty to visit the place of his residence, to ascertain if he were really exercising his profession. The landlord of the hotel told us, that Mr. Rymer was far advanced in years; that he never heard of his having attended patients; that he did not even know that he practised either as a surgeon or an apothecary, he knew him only as a vender of nostrums. A cheesemonger told us, that he had never heard of his having a patient, and thought that his source of support was from the sale of his nostrums. He had been well acquainted with Mr. Rymer many years, and latterly he had promised to discharge a debt as soon as he got a thousand pounds from Dr. Reece, which he had told him he was sure to get for a libel on his character!! A respectable surgeon of Ryegate told us, that he did not consider Mr. Rymer as one of the practitioners of the place, that he was in fact a vender of nostrums. Mrs. Steele, the wife of Mr. Steele, (one of his witnesses) told us that Mr. Rymer was a vender of nostrums, and that she would not take a dose of his Cardiac Tincture, if he were to pay her to do it. With this information, we were not a little surprised to find that Mr. Steele had stated, that Mr. Rymer practised surgery in Ryegate, and that he had met him in consultation. The result of some late inquiries has satisfied us, that Mr. Rymer had little, if any thing, to do with the proceedings, and we think we have sufficient evidence of a conspiracy to extort money from us, and that the principal actors were a Henley quack, who was a short time ago *hoo*ted out of Ryegate for mal-practices, and a taylor's wife!! This affair is, therefore, very likely to be brought before the public in a different shape.

MEDICAL CONSULTATION.—The following account of a medical consultation, on the case of an Orang Outang, we have had by us many months. On account of its length we declined inserting it in our regular numbers. We consider it to possess some merit, as pointing out the advantages which arise from the different systems of medicine, and the consolatory resources they afford to invalids and their friends. After the ceremony of introduction to Mr. P—cock, and the *physical* inspection of the invalid, the gentlemen arranged themselves in a circle around the body, each putting himself in a position for delivering his opinion of the nature, cause, and *proper* treatment of his malady. Dr. Th—nt—n advancing, with his eyes directed to Mr. P—cock, observed, " Sir, the well known liberality of the medical gentlemen of this kingdom, their love of science, and their readiness on *all* occasions to *give* their assistance to lessen the sum of *human* misery, are particularly exemplified on this *unhappy* occasion. The meeting of men of science, I foresaw, on reading the paragraph in the Morning Chronicle, of the *unfortunate* indisposition of poor Orang Outang, would be very great. but, Sir, it behoves me to intimate to you, that whatever benefit poor Orang may derive from such a consultation, it may be counteracted by the deterioration of the atmosphere of the room from its crowded state, not

only by the learned profession, but also by the beasts and birds of the menagerie surrounding us. Sir, all the medical men present well know that the vital portion of the air is consumed by respiration, and that vital air is the grand stimulus or *perpetuator* of animal life!"—(*General applause.*) Mr. P—cock, mounting the table on which poor Orang lay, addressed the meeting: "Gentlemen, I was well aware of the great liberality of the medical world (applause), but I confess, I did not expect on *this* occasion that *I*, or poor Orang Outang, would have been honoured with so numerous a meeting of learned men. It was, gentlemen, my intention to have paid each physician the customary *consultation* compliment, but as the *company* is so numerous, I think it proper to intimate, before any discussion takes place, that to pay each the compliment that I consider him entitled to would really take a greater sum than poor Orang has *yet* produced. I therefore hope that no gentleman, after this intimation, will conceive that I have *underrated* his advice and opinion by not offering a fee."—Dr. H—p—r, shutting up his vademecum, Dr. P—s, putting his hands into his waistcoat pockets, Mr. A. C—r, Mr. C—e, and Sir H— H—, turning their backs on poor Orang, marched towards the door. Mr. P—cock, raising his voice, proceeded: "I flatter myself that the discussion will be most scientific, and learned, and *profitable* to ALL."—The marching gentlemen then suddenly turned face about, and took their former situations. A profound silence prevailing, Dr. C—ie advanced towards poor Orang, and placing his body erect, said that the nature of the disorder was very *clear*, that the appearance of the eyes, the fallen countenance, the breathing,—at this time Dr. L—m entered the room, and advancing with long and rapid strides to the table of Orang, addressed Mr. P—cock: "Sir, I am sorry that I am a few minutes after my time; but, Sir, I anticipate your observation, 'better late than never.'—I beg to congratulate you" (looking at Dr. A—ie, Dr. P—s, Dr. G—r) "on so respectable a meeting of men of *genuine* science and *tried* experience," (general applause, in which an Arabian ass, an owl, and cockatoo joined). Dr. C—ie, (advancing and looking at Orang) "The countenance, the position, and the"——here Dr. L—m, raising his cane, and looking sternly to Mr. P—cock, vociferated *Silence!* "Sir, (in an elevated voice, and with an air of dignity and consequence), as president of the most learned, most scientific, and I may add, without the fear of contradiction, the most liberal body of philosophers in the *known* world;—a set of men, who, on no occasion lose sight of themselves, and *consequently*, of the community, (applause from Dr. A—ie, Dr. P—s, Dr. B—m, Dr. G—d—r, &c.) I do conceive I am not only entitled to deliver my observations and opinions first, but, Sir, that for the proper discussion of poor Orang's case, (which cannot fail to excite in all our breasts genuine feelings of commiseration) it is necessary that we should have a president to keep order, or regulate the discussion, for the benefit of our much valued friend, poor Orang. To say, who is most entitled to that *honor*, (raising his cane and voice at the same time), does not become *me*"—(general applause)—A chair was then placed on the table, and Dr. L—m was placed in it by Drs. P—s, A——e, P———n, and B——e, amidst general acclamation, in which all the brutes except poor Orang joined. The president, having, arranged his wig and his white handkerchief and

ringed hand on his right knee, proceeded:—" Gentlemen, as long as I am capable of distinguishing scientific reasoning from plausible sophistry, or rather, sound theory on facts from flighty, or a kind of sophistical theory on hypothesis, I will manfully support the dignity and the interest of the members of that body, of which I have the honor of being president, an honor, let me tell you, which far, very far, surpasses that of any title or distinction which a potentate can confer—(general applause).—Orang Outang's case is, doubtless, one of *serious import*—(applause). His *emaciated* state, and his *debilitated* state, must be the consequences of something, and to discover that something is our duty (a nod of approbation from P—cock). Before I shall venture to hazard an opinion, I must beg permission to examine his urine." The urine being handed to him by Mrs. Pemberton, the president proceeded, " I am satisfied, both olfactorily and ocularly, that the disease is diabetes. To ascertain this fact, (looking to Mr. P—cock) for the satisfaction of all the medical men in attendance, the urine must be reduced by evaporation in a *clean* vessel; not a saucepan that has been used for melting butter or making sweet sauce, by which I have often been deceived, but in a *clean* vessel." The urine was then delivered to Mrs. P—s, to boil secundum artem. " Before I conclude (observed the president) I beg to apologize to Dr. C—ie, for having interrupted him, and to assure him, that it was far from my wish, to make him feel his inferiority as a licentiate, or, indeed, my superiority. The Currian system I have often admired. Curry powder was no bad relish, and by a process of currying he has done much, very much good, by increasing the circulation of the blood in the skin. The Currian system I *perfectly* understand; it produces a derivation in favour of the internal local disease, and brings grist to the mill (bravo! from Mr. F——s, the undertaker). Gentlemen, as this meeting is numerous and highly respectable, I shall take the opportunity to relate a case of pulmonary consumption, attended with a chronic eruption of the skin of the *leprous* kind. I ordered for the patient, (a very beautiful young lady, of very fascinating manner, voice, and person) afflicted with all the *leading* symptoms of confirmed phthisis, a linctus of conserve of hips, Dover's powders, and sulphuric acid, to be taken *internally*, and an ointment to be applied *externally* to the parts affected—(general applause)—A week afterwards, when *I* called on her, to my great astonishment I found her very much better, indeed, in a state of *convalescence* (screwing up his mouth). The eruption of the skin had totally disappeared—(raising his eye-brows)—I ordered the medicines to be continued, and lo and behold, on the following day, she called on me to inquire if *I* had made any alteration in the medicines, for the article she had been taking, she was instructed, by her apothecary, a Mr. Noodle, (not of Ondar) to apply to the eruption; on looking at the article, I found, to my no small astonishment, that she had been taking the ointment, and applying the linctus to the eruptions.—This case contains volumes.—You will duly appreciate the communication, and, if possible, mind, I say, *if possible*, turn it to the advantage of poor Orang. I should add, she continued to take the ointment, till her health was established"—(general and reiterated applause).

The learned Doctor C——ie, placing himself by a sudden kind of

scientific spring before Mr. A——y, (who began to exhibit symptoms of a desire to deliver his opinion,) after bowing to the chair, addressed the president. "I am fully sensible of the honor you have done me in your brief notice of *my* system. When you, Sir, very properly interrupted me, I was going to state, that the predominant symptoms poor Orang exhibits, indicate an over-loaded state of the hepatic system; that he stands in need of some aid, to emulge the ducts which convey bile to the duodenum. Now, Sir, I boldly declare, notwithstanding your sarcasms, that calomel, or, if you please, *Curry* powder, is the only medicine that possesses this power; and I am not afraid to say, in the presence of the gentlemen *composing* this meeting, that the life of Orang depends on the judicious exhibition of this sillagogue. When the biliary organs are properly emulged, the general health may be rapidly restored by a tonic medicine. *Long* experience and *close* observation have established in *my mind*, that the liver is the hot bed of diseases in the animal economy (great applause). Yes (with elevated voice), in it are deposited and germinized with great rapidity the seeds of disease. Here then, as able generals, we should attack the enemy. It is his hiding place." Mr. A—y, after placing himself in an arguing position, looking earnestly towards the chair, observed, "Although Dr. C——ie has placed himself *before* me, I beg to assure you I delivered the same opinion as to the hatching or germinating powers of the liver, long before he published his opinions. A Mr. Noodle, whose family is numerous in the *medical* world, of great science and of sound judgment, hinted to me, full thirty years ago, (cry of hear, hear,) that nearly, if not all the maladies to which humanity is subject, either originate in the liver, or are so intimately connected with it, that in this place, and in this place *only*, the enemy is to be successfully attacked (reiterated applause, the president shrugging his shoulders.) Now, Sir, (looking most earnestly at the president, and pointing towards Orang,) what do his laborious breathing, his elevated shoulders, and his position indicate? Why, Sir, I will tell you, an overloaded and tender state of the chylo-poietic organs (applause.) Poke him in the region of the stomach, you will find him evince symptoms of tenderness *there*. Look at his fæces; you will find them to have a pale clayey appearance, clearly indicating a torpid state of the liver. After stating so much, Sir, as to his state and the causes of his indisposition, need I say, what should be done for him? Did not Hippocrates, upwards of two thousand years ago, discover this seat of disease, and point out clearly the mode of treatment? (Very good indeed, observed the president.) Well then, Sir, so far so good (general applause.) The symptoms indicate the use of the blue pill, and a stomachic or warm aperient. Five grains of blue pill, a table-spoonful *or so* of tincture of senna, and any bitter vegetable extract, to *quiet* and to soothe the irritated stomach, will set all right. But, Sir, (perspiring copiously, and raising his voice, and looking to Mr. P——cock) more is to be done by diet than medicine, (murmurs.) A certain quantity of food should be taken at regular periods daily. The gastric juice should not be diluted during meals; but, Sir, (looking to the president) I have in my book, page 65, (which may be obtained at the shop of my publishers, in Paternoster Row) said so much on this subject, that I beg to conclude by referring Mr. P—cock to it. If the directions there given be *properly*

followed, I will forfeit the copyright of my Treatise on Lumbar Abscess, if the result should not be favourable."—(General applause.)—The president, raising himself in the chair, with a countenance indicative of contempt, observed, "The disapprobation some apothecaries have thought proper to express, by murmuring at the observations of the learned gentleman who spoke last, is highly indecorous, and as such, it is my duty to notice it. Do they suppose that diseases are to be cured only by draughts, pills, and boluses? We meet here for the benefit of a poor unfortunate invalid, brought to this country, probably contrary to his wish, and now very far from all his relatives and friends, and therefore entitled to our protection and *disinterested* advice. Thank my stars, I am not one of those wretched practitioners, who study to make merchandise of the miserable. Now as to diet, there cannot be a doubt that disease is frequently the consequence of over-feeding, or in plain language, of *gormandizing*. Let me ask you, ye *learned* advocates for draughts, pills, boluses, lavements, &c. &c. &c. why should the human race be more liable to disease than brutes? (a profound silence.) Let me ask you, ye sapient, ye disinterested worthy members of the community, why is the brute creation exempt from a number of diseases, to which man is liable, and to which he very frequently falls a sacrifice? Are horses, are oxen, are sheep, are asses, (applause) are puppies, (general applause) are calves, (great applause) and other animals, either vegetiverous, vegeto-carnivorous, or carnivorous, subject to apoplexy, to gout, and to a great variety of inflammatory and organic diseases to which man is? You will say, as others have done, oh, brutes are governed by instinct, which seldom or never errs. Well, admitted; but does not this fact shew the absurdity of man boasting of the great superiority his reason gives him over the brute creation? I beg to ask you, if the Creator has favoured man in structure or formation of body?—Is not the structure of the horse, the ox, or indeed any animal, as beautiful as that of man? nay, in some, is it not more beautiful, and are not many formed with superior advantages. Then you must admit that the only advantage man possesses over brutes, is, superiority of intellect, or an addition to his intellects of *reason*. Notwithstanding this intellectual superiority, it appears to me, that the Creator could not trust man to its guidance alone—that we have our instinctive feelings or passions, which are scarcely under its control. The sense of hunger, or gratification in satisfying it, is instinctive, and not to be subdued by reason; but in this, how does man employ his boasted reason? Why, (with a sneer of contempt) in inventing a variety of dishes, wines, sweetmeats, to gratify this instinctive passion. Instead of taking into his stomach a sufficient quantity to support the system, he indulges in a variety of dishes, wines, &c. for no other reason than they are gratifying to his palate, although at the time *he knows*, that they disorder his stomach, and subject him to disease!! Call you this reason?—an endowment which raises man above brutes? Tell me, (raising his voice, and striking the floor with his cane,) is a gormandizer or a drunkard superior, or inferior to the most filthy brute? The desire to take food is an instinctive feeling, given to us most wisely, for the purpose of keeping up life, not under the entire control of reason, but when man employs his reason to increase the pleasure of gratifying it, he reduces himself below the brute creation. This in-

dulgence is the source, the *only* source, of a great variety of diseases; and although it is also the source of wealth to medical men, yet, I do conceive that it was highly indecorous for any set of practitioners to express disapprobation of the observations of Mr. A—y, on the subject.—(General and reiterated applause.)—I might touch on another instinctive passion, which the Creator could not trust to the guidance of reason, and in the exercise of which, man debases himself below the brute creation, and here is the source, the prolific source of the most distressing diseases. Suffice it to say, that we do not gratify our instinctive passions with the view of fulfilling the objects for which they are so strongly implanted in our nature.—(Applause.)—Indeed, indeed, (shaking his head,) I am fearful we have much overrated this small addition, or rather extension of intellectual power! It does not contribute to our happiness, for man is the most miserable, and the most restless animal in the world. He is continually employed in some ingenious scheme of procuring the means of support, or humbugging his fellow creatures. He lives by trick and impositions.—(Applause.)—We boast also of civilization, but let me ask you, what is really the state of society to which we have given this fine name of *civilization*.—(With a sneer.)—Is it not, I ask you, a state of subjection or restraint, in which the most severe penal laws and religion, are scarcely sufficient to keep us? To preserve this state, or to check the disposition which prevails in us to barbarism, many, very many of our fellow creatures are executed in this metropolis, annually!! Suspended by a cord, as if unworthy of living on earth, even in slavery with brutes. Now, if it were not for the iron hand of the law, in what state would society be in a few months? The dread of punishment, or the fear of detection, keeps 99 out of 100 in a state of civilization!—Indeed, indeed, (lifting up both hands,) I am convinced that man, with all his boasted endowment, and his state of refined civilization, has much to learn from the brute creation; and, I suspect, if the restraints were removed, viz. penal laws and religion, he would soon become the greatest savage in the world, inasmuch as he would not spare his own species. Reason, therefore, as it is now employed, is only a superior cunning, superior craft!" (applause.)

Mr. A. C——r, (advancing with the dignity of a general officer) "Sir, notoriety seems to be the order of the day, and to obtain it some aim (looking towards Mr. A—y) at eccentricity, and others at a superior knowledge of a disease, or acquaintance with a particular department of medicine (applause). In point of experience I am *second* to no man, and, although I have not had the advantage of a hint from Mr. Noodle, I do presume to be as capable of judging of the *seat* or *cause* of local disease as Mr. A—y, or any other man. Now, Sir, I agree with Mr. A—y, so far that in local diseases the stomach or chylo-poietic organs are disordered; but, Sir, long experience has satisfied me, that local diseases are generally the *cause*, and not the *effect* of a disordered state of those organs (applause). I have met with many, very many, cases of disorders of the digestive organs, attended with ulceration, or diseased structure, very remote from those organs, which soon ceased, on curing the local diseases. Are not the piles generally accompanied with a disordered state of the chylo-poietic functions, and also of the brain, and as soon as they begin to bleed, or the attendant irritation abates,

does not the affection of the stomach or of the brain immediately cease? Is it not then ridiculous to attribute *all* local diseases to a disordered state of the digestive organs? The doctrines of A—y and his eccentricities, to say the best of them, I have found very beneficial to *myself*, and therefore it would be folly in me to oppose them. It appears, Sir, to me (taking a side view of himself in a looking glass) that poor Orang is suffering either from dilatation or ossification of the descending aorta, and from the difficulty with which the blood is propelled through it by the heart, I am very much disposed to recommend a ligature to the descending aorta: I beg leave, however, to postpone delivering my final opinion, until my colleague, Mr. T—s, and my late very able pupils, Mr. H— and Mr. F. F. have favoured us with their's."

Dr. Th—n.—"During the speech of Mr. A.C—r, (whose person and address I have always admired) I observed, Sir, that poor Orang was in an *indicative* mood, and I do conceive that it is the duty of a physician to attend to indications; Orang not only moved his ears and tail, but also gaped, which I consider indications of great importance. They show, Sir, that the vital powers are very much oppressed, and if means be not speedily employed to relieve him, he will soon be in the *future tense*" (applause).

Mr. F—s, (the undertaker,) pointing to Orang: "Whatever *mode* poor Orang may be in, I am sorry that his malady is not placed in the *nominative* case, for after all the remarks that have been made, it does not appear to me, that you have yet agreed on the *name* for his disease. I agree with Dr. T——n, that if some plan be not agreed upon to suspend the progress of the disease, his life will be soon in the *vocative* case (caret), and the cure of him will soon fall to me, viz. to put him into his *final case*. To be witty, however, on such a *melancholy* occasion, is highly improper I wish to see medical men, met in consultation, at least appear *grave*. The observations of the president on *man*, have made a very deep impression on my mind, (applause.) The time will come, and perhaps is not far distant, when I, like poor Orang, shall stand in need of a consultation, (reiterated applause.) I see no reason, gentlemen, why *you* should applaud me. From you, who have always been *my best* friends, *real* friends, *sincere* friends, I expected sympathy. Let me tell you, that the office of physician is a very serious one, and he who undertakes it, incurs a very awful degree of responsibility." The president, addressing himself to Mr. F——s, observed, "I do not think, Sir, that the gentlemen meant by their applause, to infer they were pleased with the prospect of another consultation, but that they should feel pleasure in devising a mode of treatment, that would restore you to health. For my own part, I have always entertained a very high esteem and friendship for undertakers; and when I fall in their hand, I defy any one to say, that I have not been a *real friend* to them. To me, they are as much indebted as to any practitioner in this country, (great applause.) I have never lost sight of their interest, when it did not militate against my own, (reiterated applause.) I admire their *independent* spirit, and their *morality*, (applause from Mr. A——, Mr Br—kes, and Mr. A. C——r.) Indeed, notwithstanding the observations I have made on man, I flatter myself, that the age in which we live, will be distinguished by posterity as the *moral* age. No man admires *morality* more en-

thusiastically than myself.—I am"—Here the learned president was interrupted by a noise at the other end of the room. An old Welch goat had attacked a *most noble* Marquis, whilst he was admiring the plumage of a beautifully *painted* cockatoo, and unfortunately poked one horn into his right eye, and left a contused impression of the other horn on the forehead. Sir W. K. recognising the gentleman, advanced with rapid strides to his assistance. After inspecting the eye, he applied a *honi soit* garter over *both* eyes, and by means of a bauble cap, covered the mark of the horn on the forehead. He assured the Marquis, that he had nothing to apprehend from the accident. That the animal was perfectly *innocent*, and had no symptom of madness about him. That the blood which escaped from the wound was true *noble* blood, and not in the slightest degree contaminated; that in case any mark was left on the eye or forehead, he should have a bauble cap large enough to cover both. The Marquis observed, that in order to prevent the goat from doing any *further* mischief, his horns should be removed. "To saw them off, or to do any thing else," observed Sir W. "would be of no use, as the animal is perfectly innocent." Sir W. K. and Sir B. B. then conducted the Marquis to his carriage. The gentlemen having taken their stations round the table, Dr. T—n and Mr. F—s advanced at the same time and addressed the chair. Mr. F—s observed, "As I have very little more to say, I hope, Sir, you will allow me to proceed." Dr. T—n.—"I have, Sir, also very little to say, and perhaps very little to any purpose; but, Sir, I must support the dignity of the profession, in claiming a right of precedence," (applause). The president, (looking to Mr. F—s) observed, "During a long practice, I have observed, that physicians always took the precedence of undertakers, or rather, that undertakers generally *follow* physicians (applause); I must therefore first hear Dr. Th—n." Mr. F—s bowing, expressed his approbation of his decision, "for if physicians were not to precede undertakers, the trade would not be worth following." (murmurs).

Dr. Th—n (looking steadfastly at the president), "Sir, I have received the most satisfactory *olfactory* evidence of an evolution of hydrogen gas within the body of poor *Orang* (general applause). On this most lucky and most important discovery, I most cordially congratulate Mr. P—cock (applause). Now, Sir, we *all* know that water is composed of oxygen and hydrogen, (bravo!); and when the latter is in excess, the former must of course be the reverse (partial applause). Now, Sir, I propose the immediate exhibition of oxygen. This remedy, Sir, *you* well know, is the grand stimulus of life; it is, we *all* well know, attracted by the red particles of the blood, and by them conveyed over the body (general applause). By stimulating the heart and arteries, it will wonderfully arouse poor Orang Outang, for whose affliction (looking at Mr. P—cock) I do most acutely feel (hear, hear; fee, fee). The oxygen, by combining with the hydrogen in excess, will form water, which, by stimulating the kidneys, will certainly bring on a process that might be of great service to poor Orang (applause). This doctrine, because it is new, may excite laughter among those unacquainted with *philosophical* chemistry, or the *philosophy of medicine;* but, Sir, I cannot complain of receiving the same treatment as the great Harvey experienced, on divulging his important discovery of the circulation of the blood—a discovery which you all, as well as myself, know how to appreciate (ap-

plause). Sir, I beg to state, for the information of this meeting, that to-morrow evening, I shall deliver a lecture on the circulation of the blood, and the use of oxygen in supporting animal life, and that I shall give orders to admit all the members of your body *gratuitously;* but that the porter may know that they are members, I must beg of them to attend in their college *closet* habiliments," (petticoats, petticoats, from different parts).

Mr. P—tt—s.—" Sir, I rise only to correct a doctrine, which I have ascertained, by a variety of experiments, to be erroneous. Sir, oxygen is not absorbed or attracted by the red particles of the blood in the lungs, and conveyed over the system; it combines with the carbon of the venous blood, and forms carbonic acid gas, which is *immediately exhaled.* Neither oxygen nor azote is absorbed by the lungs during respiration; for the volume of carbonic acid gas generated is *exactly* equal to that of the oxygen which disappears. *You,* Sir, *well* know, that carbonic acid contains its own volume of oxygen (applause). The change of the blood from the purple venous to the bright red (arterial), arises from the discharge of carbon," (applause).

Dr. Th—n.—" Sir, Mr. P—s may be right; to *me* the theory is new; but, Sir, whether the beneficial or animating effects, which are produced *all over the body* during, or immediately after respiration of *pure* oxygen, arise from its conveying carbon from the blood, or from absorption, is of little consequence. The remedy, it is clear, is a most important one, and applicable to a great variety of diseases." At this time there was a considerable noise at the door, occasioned by a violent rapping with knuckles. On opening the door, Mr. A— C—r's servant appeared (bravo!) He vociferated, " Lady C—, in consequence of a *false step,* has fallen down and punctured the tympanum with a pin of the Royal Birmingham manufactory." Mr. A. C—r, looking towards the president, observed, " the puncture of the tympanum, with such an article, could be of consequence to *him* only. He must turn it to account (applause), and for this purpose he hoped Mr. P—cock would excuse his leaving the care of poor Orang in the hands of the experienced president and highly respectable members constituting the meeting (general applause), and particularly his *scientific* pupils present (applause); I always support the professional *arts.*" Mr. F—s. " Sir, when I advanced to the table with Dr. Th—n, it was with the view of *begging* a very particular and *rather* delicate favour. Sir, I promised my Lord ——, of Amen Corner, to screw down the lid of Lady ——'s coffin at three o'clock precisely. With her ladyship most of the gentlemen present were well acquainted. From the age of twenty-two she was a great friend to physic. To the leading or fashionable physicians of the day, she was indeed the golden *goose* (applause). For the last thirty years of her life, she had the great satisfaction of presenting to her physicians (who were all her bosom friends) no less than six guineas daily" (bravo!) "Ah! ah!" observed the president, " I was one of her *best* friends I knew her well, and I shall never know her equal again" (striking the table with his cane,—applause) Mr. F—s proceeded, " *Real* disease at length assailed her, which baffled all the skill and judgment of *her friends,* the physicians." "Ah! ah! so it is, Mr. F—s," said the president; " she had accustomed her-

self so long to medicine, and the *cardiac* effects of visits from *her* friends, the physicians, when nothing ailed her, that when real disease occurred, medicine and the visits of her friends, the physicians, had no effect" (applause). "Very true, most learned president and respected *friend*," replied Mr. F—s, "but 'tell it not in Gath' (general applause). The favor I am about to request has been often granted to me by overseers of parishes, and keepers of work-houses, viz. to take measure of a body for a coffin, before death, to save me the trouble of a purpose visit, (applause). Now, Sir, if I am allowed to measure poor Orang, with whom I sympathize most *cordially*, the circumstance cannot accelerate his dissolution, and, therefore, I hope, from a numerous meeting of the enlightened, unprejudiced, and steady *friends* I see around me, this indulgence will be granted," (general applause).—The President—"I see no plausible objection to your proposal; I am sure, undertakers, notwithstanding the reports that have been industriously circulated of their being in partnership with resurrectionists and lecturers, are a set of very honest, very honourable people. Gentlemen, they are the sacred depositors of our bodies, (applause); our worldly career is not finished till we have passed through their hands (applause from Mr. F—s), although many ill-natured people have insinuated, that we, gentlemen of the profession, are often the finishers—(general applause). Now, in my conscience, I do believe that an undertaker never sold a body, nor aided a resurrectionist in taking one after burial" (applause.)

Sir E. H.—"I beg to observe, before Mr. F—s quits us, that (as he very wittily or *classically* observed), the disease of Orang had not been placed in the *nominative* case, and that his life would soon be in the *vocative* case, (caret), I trust that his leaden or wooden case, would not be the *final* one, but that I shall afterwards find him in the *dative case*, or in simple language, that after it has passed through the hands of the undertaker, anterior to which, I beg leave to state all dead bodies are sacred, Mr. P—cock will allow me to take possession of Orang, for the benefit of the members of the Royal College of Surgeons. But I beg to assure Mr. P—cock, that I firmly believe, that his present illness is the consequence of prostatic irritation, or urethral disease, and that by judicious application of *caustic*, he may be restored to health, (applause.) I assure you, Sir, that I have met with obstinate affections of the stomach, head, and bowels, which were occasioned by prostatic or urethral irritation, and which disappeared as soon as the disease of the prostate gland or urethra was cured (applause). Mr. B—s, (looking towards Mr. F—s, engaged in measuring Orang) "Sir, as I am acquainted with Lady ——, indeed, I was one of *her ladyship's* FRIENDS, I beg to intimate, that I hope Mr. F. will make proper use of that most useful *vehicle* termed a *shell*. The *leaden* coffin was a *valuable* invention; the weight of a body is not missed in it. A word to the wise; (looking to the president). Although I cannot boast of having been so great a friend as yourself to this most respectable and *useful* class of society, undertakers, I will, as long as I am able, raise my voice in defence of their character," (general applause).

Mr. P—cock—"Sir, to the faculty it is my wish to be liberal. Mr. B—s and Sir E— H. have often experienced my liberality. The exhibition of poor Orang's skeleton in the Museum of the College of Sur-

geons, cannot possibly tend to promote the *science* of surgery (applause). Not many months ago, the *philosophic* Baronet deposited in that place with great solemnity, indeed, Sir, I believe it was even conveyed there in a *royal* carriage, a large bone, as the thigh bone of a king of Egypt, which was afterwards discovered to be the thigh bone of a cow (general laughter). This, Sir, is *fresh* in our memories; now, Sir, if the skeleton of Orang were placed there, in another century, it might be taken for that of a diminutive class of the human species who had *tails*, and our *noble* race would be degraded" (applause).

Mr. F—s, advancing—"Mr. President, I beg to return you, and all my *friends*, for myself, and all the undertakers of this country, my unfeigned thanks, for the honourable terms in which you have spoken of me and them; to you all we are under the greatest obligation; you will *always* find us grateful. A word to the wise (looking to B—s) is enough. Although I have taken measure of poor unfortunate Orang, I hope to be with you again before the consultation ends, and right glad shall I be to find that you have fixed on a plan to restore him to health (bowing obsequiously); respected and most valuable *friends*, I wish you all success" (applause). The president observed, on Mr. F—s leaving the room, with a nod and smile, "A shrewd, sensible fellow that" (applause). Dr. Br—m (placing his hand on Orang's head, and looking sapiently at the chair) "Sir, it appears to me that"——Dr. A—ie, (raising his cane and his ringed finger at the same time) observed, "I hope, Sir, that you will keep up the dignity of the *regular* profession, and of the college in particular, and not allow irregular men or quacks to take any part in this discussion." The president replied, "There was a time when I thought as you do; but really, brother A—ie, I think, on this occasion, it is due to Mr. P—cock, to poor Orang, and to our *poor* selves, to hear every one who may be encouraged to deliver an opinion. The opinion of irregular men, and even quacks, cannot hurt, or *prejudice* us, or shake our confidence in classic lore, or in the medical schools of Oxford and Cambridge; indeed, we as philosophers, should not be so harsh as to term the graduates of other universities ignorant, unless we had found them so, (applause).

"If we had a *regular* system of medicine *of our own*, one on which we all agreed, and one, too, superior to any other, or which enabled us to discriminate and heal diseases with great success, then indeed we might conscientiously enforce by-laws, to exclude others from practice, and thereby secure the whole *fee* trade, to which the public, which unfortunately for us, is a *discerning* public, would consider us entitled. Hence don't you see the impolicy of establishing Sunday schools? How the d—l the legislature could sanction such institutions, I cannot conceive: certain it is, they cannot support them and *us*; think of this, Master Brougham. Man, even the *lowest* class, will not, like many of us, read *mechanically*. He will *think*, he will infer, he will presume to advance, or rather to be impudent. Now the great evil of all this is (and really to us, or our institutions, it is become the *poll evil*, advancing *rapidly* to the head; once touch our head, brothers, it is all up; we may then say, with a learned colleague, the pig is dead) as the lower classes advance in knowledge, the proceedings of all institutions must become *rational* and *just* (applause from Drs. S—d, Th—n, and the surgeons and apothecaries). Now, brother A—ie, the misfortune is, that all the members of

our *learned* body, have their systems, which are, most unfortunately for us, diametrically opposed. There is poor B——d, an advocate for beef-steaks and porter; and that emaciated, pale faced fellow, L—e, as violently, or rather obstinately, contends that man should live on vegetables only, a system his very appearance proves to be erroneous. They all presume to maintain their opinions, one for Hippocrates, another for Galen, another for Boerhaave, another for Brown, another for Cullen, another for *morbid* anatomy, another for *natural* anatomy, another for chemistry, and all together only for the *Guinea* trade. These are facts, brother A—e, and highly esteemed, luminous, or sophistical dealer in words, your very kind puffer, Mr. G——y, it is therefore of no use to mince the matter (applause). Our castle must one day or other capitulate; the artillery of reason is formidable; it has already made a breach, and therefore let us meet our fate as becomes philosophers" (applause).

"If you, brother A—e, are disposed to *risk* an opinion, I think you are entitled, as a fellow of the college, to be heard first" (partial applause). The learned Dr. falling back into his place, Dr. B—m advanced.—"Sir, I thank you for your very *liberal*, very *rational* remarks. It appears to me, that poor Orang's indisposition is general debility of the nervous system, and of the *spinal marrow* in particular. I merely beg to *hint* the propriety of administering a dose of *my* cordial without further delay (great applause from three men behind the chair). I assure you, Sir, *I* have found it extremely beneficial, and the more it is known, the more good it will do (great applause from the same quarter). The late queen did me the honour to take the cordial.

"Ah, poor Orang (looking pitifully in his face), this I can tell *thee*, that had you been a Jew or a Christian, poor and needy, your last hours would not have been disturbed by a consultation. Ah, ah, it is well to be Orang Outang! But if one guinea would save your life, you would in vain seek for it among the learned fellows of the college, or *regular* physicians, as they term themselves" (murmurs.) The president, turning round, inquired of the gentlemen who so violently applauded the last speaker, what they were? They replied with a smile, "Sir, we be what you calls undertakers," (general applause). Mr. G—y, placing his hands on the table, and fixing his eyes on the president, observed, "My lord, and gentlemen of the jury; pshaw, I mean, *Sir;* you well know that the gentlemen of the bar are, or fancy themselves to be competent to deliver an opinion on any subject. When a case of any kind comes into *our* courts, it is very ingeniously or sophistically, if not scientifically discussed (applause). My much-esteemed, learned, and scientific friend, Dr. A——e, having declined, from a politic motive, no doubt, to deliver *his* opinion on the case before us, I am emboldened to say something (applause). The glorious uncertainty of the law is proverbial, but *I* say, that the discussion of this day, proves the glorious uncertainty of physic (applause from the undertakers). Sir, I have hitherto been fortunate enough to steer clear of physic. There is no disease I more dread, or that has paralyzed my brain, and baffled my ingenuity, profound legal reasoning and address to juries, more than the SCARLETT fever (applause). Sir, it strikes me, that unhappy Orang may be sickening for that disease, that *plague*, I should have said. Now, Sir, so great a dread have I of it, that if you or my friend *Doctor* A——e, or Surgeon R——r, should

entertain such an idea, I would run out of this place with all the speed these legs of mine (raising both alternately), are capable of effecting" (calves, calves). The president observed, with a smile, "I am delighted with your eloquence, and I have great pleasure in being able to state positively that poor Orang's complaint is not contagious." Surgeon R——r, in a very feeble voice, observed, "I have also a great dread of the SCARLETT fever. Remedies proving fatal is no uncommon occurrence, but for a disease to prove fatal to a remedy is most uncommon (applause). The SCARLETT fever, I can assure you, from dire experience (taking out a handkerchief), has proved fatal to the Cardiac Tincture, and I fear to all my hopes, to my future comforts (weeping). Alas, alas, that I should have listened to *Mrs.* Fisher. I am now become a proper subject for my own remedy, imbecile, weak, timid—to take my own medicine!! Think of that, oh, think of that, Mr. President. I have colic, I have timidity, I have almost all the complaints for which I have recommended my medicine" (applause from the undertakers, and quack, quack, from a Muscovy duck.)

The Rev. Mr. C—r—n now presented himself: "Sir, as I have not the honour of being known to you and this highly respectable meeting, I beg to state, that I am the Rev. Mr. C—r—n, a beneficed clergyman and deputy-lieutenant of the most enlightened county of England, a county, Sir, celebrated for *thick* cheeses, fine oxen and *calves* (applause from Dr. A— and Mr. G—). Sir, the state of Orang shews a great want of vitality. Let me ask you seriously, does not that state indicate the immediate use of *vital* pills? To *me*, Sir, they have proved very beneficial. To *me* they are victuals, drink, card money, every thing" (the ass braying). Mr. B—r, "Sir, I think the Reverend Gentleman would be more in character in praying for his patients, or preparing their minds for the worst. Medical men induce patients to hope for the best, and parsons should prepare their minds for the worst" (applause).

The President (looking fiercely at Mr. B——r, and elevating his cane and head), "Ah, that's a rub, a *salutary* rub. But, good Mr. B—r, would not prayers for Orang be unavailing? Orang is a brute, and brutes, we know, or rather suppose, have not a part which lives hereafter. Man, haughty man, prides himself in literary attainments. He commences at an early period, and by gradations, advances to that pitch which he calls *classical* (applause from several Fellows of the College and Mr. G—y). He then reads the works of the ancients in their *original* languages; still, however, he cannot get rid of the prejudices inculcated by his parents. We are all the offsprings of prejudice (applause). The use of studying the classics, the writings of the sage philosophers of old, is to strengthen the intellectual faculties, and to enable us, when we appear on the stage of life, to *think for ourselves*, and to distinguish *correct* from *incorrect conduct*. When a man is conversant with the classics, he should (raising his voice and looking sternly), read *man*. Instead of reading Homer, I say, read *homo* (general applause). 'The proper study of mankind is man' (applause). To read him with effect, you must divest yourselves of *all* prejudices. Man forms an *immense* library. *Human* nature is, indeed, an *extensive* subject. (Standing erect with his hands placed closely to his sides), read him from head to toe (turning round), read him on every side. Read

(putting his hand to his forehead), read his *brains* (applause). Read (putting his hand on his chest), read his *heart*. Read man in his different characters and ranks in society. Open the first volume and read him (walking with an air of dignity and raising his cane), as a *King*.—In all his glory (nodding) he is not arrayed as the lily of the valley. Read his consort. Read him (looking gravely), as a Chancellor. Read him (smiling), as a Bishop. Read him (suddenly springing on his legs, brushing up his wig with his left hand, raising his cane with his right and standing erect), read him as a Physician (general and reiterated applause, during which he made two dignified turns); read him (sitting down with an expression of great contempt) as an *Apothecary* (applause). Read him (bending forward, raising his leg and placing his cane as if about to amputate it, with a sneer of contempt), read him as a *Surgeon* (general applause). Read him (placing his hand over his fee pocket with an arch look) as a *lawyer*. Read him, (placing both hands over his stomach), as an *alderman*, (applause from Mr. A——y). Read him, (raising himself up, placing his hands before him, looking downwards, and making a graceful curtesy,) read *him* as a *maid* at the age of eighteen, (general applause.) Read him (raising his voice) from the king to the slave, in any of *his versions* (applause); Greek, Latin, Hebrew, French, Italian, German or any other language, ancient and modern, civilized or uncivilized, so as it be without prejudice, and tell me, ye sapient, ye most learned graduates of Cambridge and Oxford, where you find the greatest stock of virtue, and of vice, (general applause.) This I tell you, (stooping forward, with his cane raised, and an indignant smile), if you were to live one thousand years, you would not read the library through, or so as to be acquainted with it—(bravo! the millennium! vociferated Mr. G—y). Ah! either during the millennium, or even till it arrives, you never will be well acquainted with human nature, (applause.) Man is a selfish animal; indeed WE have not to learn that, (applause.) Every individual looks to himself. With respect to the world, every one fancies himself the centre of observation, (applause.) No life is of any importance but *his own*, (applause.) This you will very properly say, is fortunate, and so it is, for if we were to estimate the lives of others, in the same degree as we do our own, there would be an end to *rational* practice, and to *scientific* experiments. Had it been always the case, we should at this time have been unacquainted with the very valuable *medicinal* properties of arsenic, (applause from Dr. P——,) mercury, (applause from Mr. A——, Mr. B—r—, Mr. P——n, Dr. C——e, and the undertakers,) prussic acid, (applause from Dr. G——e, and the undertakers,) the deadly night-shade, the hemlock, and other potent poisons, (general applause, particularly by the undertakers.) Gentlemen, on ourselves, our experiments are scientifically and cautiously conducted, and therefore allow me to suggest to the practitioner, if he be desirous to ascertain the property of a new medicine, to make the *first* experiment on himself, (applause by Dr. H——n, with much general murmuring.) Now, gentlemen, (looking gravely, and replacing his white handkerchief on his right knee) I tell you man is a *double* animal (general applause; bravo! from Mr. G——y and the undertakers). I wish to know, (looking to Mr. G——y and the undertaker,) why you two gentlemen particularly applauded me?"——

Mr. G——y replied, "Because, I suppose, we *both* take *both* sides; that is, I take either the side of the plaintiff or defendant, or *both* if it were allowed, and *you* know, Sir, the undertaker always takes both sides of the dead body."—"Very good, indeed, Mr. G——y, (applause). What I mean by *double* is, that he is composed of two parts, a material and an immaterial one, as Mr. R——l informs us. Now, gentlemen, to the investigation of the latter *subject* I have devoted much of my time, and I do flatter myself that I shall be able to throw such additional light on it, as will raise me far above the most enlightened philosophers that have appeared in this world. Yes, gentlemen, death to the celebrity of Newton, Herschell, and even Sir Richard Phillips. To the brilliancy of their discoveries mine will prove *fatal* (bravo! from the undertakers)—their's *are eclipsed* for ever, (bravo! from Mr. G——y, rubbing his eyes.)

"We are told that one part is *material* and one *immaterial*—that one is composed of particles of matter, and that the other is not composed of matter. Now if be not composed of matter, what can it be? Why, it is nothing; a nonentity, a mere idea floating in *bewildered* brains (applause). Now, gentlemen, I say that the part termed *immaterial*, (which we all feel satisfied of possessing), is *material*, that is, it is composed of particles of matter, but that matter is of a very subtile, volatile nature, not cognizable by our senses. We can neither discover it by our fingers, by our ears, eyes, nor nose (general applause.) Gentlemen, we have of late years heard much of *compound* particles, *ultimate* particles, of *atoms*, and of analyses of articles by chemists. The modern chemists give us, with a great air of consequence, or rather self-sufficiency, the composition of almost every thing, even those things which the *ancient sages* pronounced to be elements (great applause from Drs. A——e, P—n—, R——ts, &c.)

"It is really amusing, *laughably* amusing, to read the analyses which have been published by Sir H—— D—y, Dr. W———n, and others. One metal they tell us is composed of oxygen, carbonic acid, hydrogen, and such like (general applause). Indeed, according to the results of their experiments, the difference between all the metals consists in different proportions of oxygen, hydrogen, and other gases. Now, if this were really the case, how easy would it be to convert copper, silver, or any metal into gold, by increasing or diminishing the quantities of the gases (applause). They tell us the diamond is nothing but *charcoal;* I, for one, should like to see them give charcoal the appearance of a diamond (applause). Now, gentlemen, how truly ridiculous is *all* this (applause); to suppose it possible that the diamonds, which ornament the crowns of all the potentates in Europe, are pieces of charcoal!! That one diamond, valued at three hundred thousand pounds, is not intrinsically or *chemically* worth more than a penny!! that it will not produce, combined with oxygen, more carbonic acid than a penny-worth of charcoal, and that the carbonic acid is not superior, in any respect, to that produced by charcoal! Why, gentlemen, this is, on the very face, an absurdity (applause). Now, gentlemen, if we ask the modern chemists, of what the different gases are composed, they will tell us—of particles, and that particles are combinations of atoms, and that all atoms are the same; that is, *they* have not been able to dis-

cover any difference in atoms. So, according to this theory, every thing is composed of the same atoms!! For the sake of *brief* explanation (applause from Mr. G——y), we will suppose a particle contains 57 atoms; 10 particles form an acid; 12 an alkali; 102 hydrogen gas; 103 carbonic acid, and so on. Now, gentlemen, if every thing in the *physical* world were composed of atoms, and every *ultimate* atom is the same, the *difference* of things must arise from the *difference* in the number which has *congregated* (great applause). Now the explanation of this *mystery*, which the *chemists* cannot solve, has remained to this time for me to give (bravo, Mr. President, bravo, from Dr. P——s and Dr. P——n). I have, by the most satisfactory experiments, discovered that atoms do differ in their forms and magnitude; hence the *difference* from *different* combinations or clusters of them (general applause). Now, gentlemen, I see you are all on tiptoe, all, very naturally indeed, most anxious to know the means by which I discovered this most important *fact*—not a flight of fancy, or a dream, but a *fact*, gentlemen—(applause). You all know that we have been able to discover the forms and appearances of very minute articles, say, animalculæ, as that of the itch, the mite, &c. by means of microscopes. The effect on the optic nerve or vision is, I conceive, produced by condensation of rays, or by refraction of them, if you please. Now, gentlemen, when the optic nerve is *inflammatorily* excited, a much greater effect is produced on it by reflected rays, than by the largest or best microscope that has been invented. Now, gentlemen, by looking steadfastly at the sun, in noon day, when the sky is particularly clear, the optic nerves are very greatly excited, and in this state of excitement, which, observe, must be raised to a degree bordering on what is termed by some writers *inflammatory* excitement, if the eyes be suddenly closed, all the atoms which are shut up between the eye-lids and ball of the eye, will be so strongly transmitted to the optic nerve, that their shapes and even colour are very apparent, (long and reiterated applause).

"Now, gentlemen, to see the atoms of different bodies, the experimentalist must have an assistant present to *pop* into the eye, dexterously, the article to be examined, without intercepting, in the smallest degree, the rays of the sun on the optic nerve (applause). If the article be a powerful caustic, as aqua fortis, caustic alkali, &c. I need scarcely tell you, it should be introduced by means of a slip of glass (general applause). Now, gentlemen, I have seen atoms perfectly round, (like a ball of fire), others square, others smooth, others rough, others like needles, others like a two-edged sword, and one exactly in the shape of a ten-penny nail (great applause). Now, gentlemen, here, then, is the whole mystery, a combination, or rather congregation, (applause from Parson C—n and Mr. B—r), of certain shaped atoms forms certain articles; for instance, congregated sharp articles, form acids; round balls, insipid articles, as milk, or water, and so on (applause). This discovery of mine, I conceive, completes the atomic theory (boisterous applause). Now, gentlemen, our earthy body, (for the materials are derived from the earth) (applause) is composed of *physical* atoms, and our spiritual body of *metaphysical* atoms. Now, man is a sojourner; *both* his parts sojourn,—the physical body in the *physical* world, (applause), the *metaphysical* body in a metaphysical broadway, which leads

to that " bourn from whence no traveller returns." In this road there are many obstacles, many labyrinths, many, very many things of annoyance, and which he cannot avoid, in consequence of having no *metaphysical* sense (applause). Here are, then, the *phenomena* of disease; a discovery which will transmit my name to the *latest* posterity (applause). The *metaphysical* broadway leads to futurity. It is stated in holy writ, the life of man is " threescore years and ten," to which not one in one hundred arrives, even in these days, when medicine is so *successfully* practised (applause). The revolution of this earth round the sun is a year, (applause); to accomplish which, it moves at the rate of 64 miles every hour; so that our *metaphysical parts* are absolutely travelling in the *metaphysical* road at a greater rate than 1000 miles in a minute! Think of this, gentlemen, and by it learn the value of time. Remember, also, that whether awake or asleep, our *metaphysical* parts continue travelling at the same rate. Think of this, ye members of this honourable profession, whose time is devoted to making politic visits. Now, gentlemen, the *metaphysical* body is connected with the physical body, by the brain and nervous system. This is the medium of union, which you all know is the seat of sensation, (applause); hence the impression received *primarily* on the metaphysical body is communicated to the physical, and *vice versa*. Now, the *solution* of the phenomena of diseases is to be found in the *metaphysical* road. There the *metaphysical* body, having no metaphysical sense to guide it in its rapid course, meets with a number of accidents, and occurrences which account for those diseases we recognised by our *physical* senses imperfectly. When the metaphysical sojourner approaches the infernal regions, the physical body becomes overheated, that is, in a fever. When it treads on a *metaphysical* shark, his teeth penetrating the *metaphysical* body, producing *gout;* hence, gentlemen, the gnawing acute pain and angry inflammation when attacked by the fiends who, with the *actual cautery*, endeavour to drive him into their region, touching him up in one place, and then in another,—that is acute rheumatism; when he gets into briars and thorns, eruptive fevers come on. When he runs against the wall of a castle, (for in this road there are many buildings termed purgatories) he continues heaving up his limbs, supposing that each effort raises him higher, when the case is, he makes no progress. Hence a very common lingering disease, with sense of fatigue in the limbs, general debility, and hence the old saying, he will *never get over it*,—by which, I suspect the ancients meant, that the metaphysical body will never get over the metaphysical wall or castle (applause). Let us hope, gentlemen, that poor *Orang Outang* is only trying to get over a gate with steps, (" the church-yard gate," exclaimed Mrs. J—n, shaking her head and fan). That may be the case, continued the President. The church-yard gate is a very common one (applause from the undertakers). There are, also, mountains on this grand road to futurity, and when the metaphysical body is ascending one, the physical body is afflicted with lassitude, and difficulty of breathing, but when descending, he has an *acute* disease. The road ends with an acute angle, which again terminates in a descent, so slippery, that when the metaphysical body arrives at it, nothing can prevent rapid precipitation into the region of eternity, to which we are all hastening.

"Now, gentlemen, at the very time the *metaphysical* body steps down the precipice, the physical body becomes defunct, whether in a healthy or a diseased state. Hence we account for the sudden death of subjects in rude health. The length of life, therefore, depends on the obstacle the *metaphysical* body has to encounter. If he happens to meet with no obstruction, he will soon arrive at the end of his journey. Does not this discovery of mine afford a most satisfactory solution of all the phenomena of diseases, and even many mysterious occurrences in our *physical* journey? This is indeed the age of *important* discoveries, as well as *morality*, (boisterous applause). Let me request you, gentlemen, as a friend to *all* of you, that you do not forget the *rate* at which your metaphysical bodies are travelling to that awful precipice from which they cannot return, and the uncertainty of their arrival there. Our physical parts travel at a very slow rate. When I was active in chasing death through the streets of London, I never exceeded eight miles in an hour. This slow pace deceives us. In the physical road, even with the assistance of our physical senses, we meet with many unpleasant occurrences, misfortunes, accidents, and a thousand other things which, with all our boasted superiority of intellect or of reason, we cannot escape. Indeed, indeed, I am now arrived to that age when all appears to be vanity,—when life is indeed a bubble. *Physical* life is in fact a mere floating bubble; a bubble which you well know is easily broken; yet, bubble as it is, man attends to *it* only, totally indifferent to that most important journey, his *metaphysical* part is making, although travelling at the rate of one thousand five hundred and thirty-six *thousand* miles daily! to the uncertainty of their arrival, and to the awfulness of the precipitation. Can you account for this indifference? Are we indebted to *reason* for it, or to civilization? (general applause). 'Seeing all these things must pass away, what manner of men ought we then to be?'" (applause).

Mr. or Esquire C— arose, amidst cries of ear, ear, ear.—"Sir, my *ears* have been richly *treated*, indeed, by your discovery, and by your observations and reflections; and I hope my *heart* will be thereby improved, Sir. Although my *ears* have been so riveted to your *tongue*, my eyes have been occasionally turned to poor Orang. I am satisfied that much, very much, of his affliction arises from obstruction in the Eustachian tube, with irritation in the tympanum. Now, Sir, I would undertake to forfeit all the furniture of my house (a cry of attics, attics), which is very handsome and costly, if, were he capable of speaking, he did not say he was *confused*, or *bothered*, by a constant singing, ringing, or boisterous noise in his ears" (applause). Mrs. S—s, tapping him on the right shoulder with her fan, emphatically observed, "Sir, you are *right*." "Madam," observed Mr. or Esquire C—, with an expression of contempt, "I am not Mr. Wright the aurist, I am *Mr.* or *Squire* C—, aurist to royalty. Have I, madam, then been at the expence of distributing copies of my portrait all over Europe for so little purpose? Have you been so much out of the literary and the fashionable world as not to know me? In Bond Street, and in St. James's Street, my picture has been *suspended* at the feet of royalty itself, and even among petticoats. I hope, Mr. President, you will not allow this lady, or any other *old woman*, to interrupt me so abruptly and so insultingly again."

Mrs. S—s, looking at the president, and extending her fan, "Sir, I did not mean to say that the gentleman's name was *Wright*, but that his opinion was right. I beg to state, Sir, that I am too well acquainted with craniology and physiognomy, to be indifferent to what should escape from the mouth of the squire, and when he placed himself in an attitude to address you, Sir, I immediately approached him, that my ears might catch every word (general applause).—I beg to state, that I often experience a noise in my ears." Mr. or

Esquire C— (raising his voice), "Sir, in the countenance of the lady, I on first view, discovered intelligence, (turning towards her, bowing gracefully, and presenting his card.) I am perfectly *satisfied* with her explanation. (Looking towards Mr. P—cock), I have no hesitation in stating that ORANG's case is *curable* (applause). With *my* instrument I will inject the Eustachian tube, and by means of *my* late discovery, to collect sound, and *pop it* suddenly on the membrane of the tympanum, I will prevent a recurrence of the complaint (applause). I, Sir, (raising himself and a dandy cane at the same time); yes, I, Sir, have not been satisfied, like other aurists, with routine practice, a practice which any old woman might learn in a week. No, Sir, like the great A. C—p—r, I have *traversed* "through *woods* and *dales*" for information, and to analogy I am indebted for the discovery of a most important instrument to assist the deaf (bravo, squire, vociferated Mrs. S—s). Yes, Sir, I examined *all* the tympanums of all the quadrupeds in this island (applause). I found those that had large tympanums to have small external ears, and *vice versa*. Well, Sir, reflecting, and twisting, and twirling these *facts* in my mind, I soon *discovered* the reason of all this (applause). I accordingly set to work, and with the assistance of *my* tinman, I completed an instrument which conveys the vibratory motion of the air with such a force, to the membrana tympani, as to enable the most deaf person to hear even a whisper (applause from the old women). Sir, *experientia docet*, and therefore, I beg you will give my invention a trial (general applause). Sir, I am never without it, (holding up an apparatus, handsomely painted, in the form of ass's ears) here is the invention, and that you may speak *experimentally* of it, I beg you will do me the *honor* to apply it over your *own* ears." The president complied, and declared he thought he heard much better (a general cry of ears, ears). Mr. or Esquire C—, advancing, instructed the president to use them, so as to catch sound from every point. The gentlemen unanimously declared they were very becoming; and the president observing an expressive smile on their countenances, which he thought signified he was in character, and very *naturally* decorated, removed the apparatus with a jerk, and quietly slided it behind the chair (general applause). The Esquire, requesting the president to give his opinion of his discovery, he observed, (with a contemptuous sneer) "Sir, if I must give my real opinion of your invention, I say it is a very foolish thing, and I think you cannot do better or act more in character than to wear it yourself (general applause). If it should not improve your hearing, it will add to the natural expression and dignity of your countenance" (general applause).

Mr. W—t: "Instead of distributing copies of my portraits over the country, or hanging them up in the company of royalty, I am satisfied in proceeding on scientific principles, and with the recommendation of those whose diseases of the ear I have cured. A respectable character as an aurist, and not flattering representations of my person, is the height of my ambition, of it *my own* writings will enable the public to form an opinion."

Doctor G—d—r. "Most larned Sir, the cause of poor Orang's indisposition cannot admit of doubt; his countenance, breath and abdomen, indicate worms: now, Sir, I will forfeit all my museum of worms, chicken's intestines, &c., if my worm specific does not *cure* him; I wants no fee, Sir, not *I*, indeed, from poor Orang: Sir, my specific destroys hundreds of worms daily" (applause by the undertakers). "No doubt," observed the president, (with a sneer) "for man's a worm." "So he is," replied Dr. G—d—r, (with an expression of contempt) "and the *Physician* is the *Guinea* worm" (quack, quack, from a Muscovy duck).

[*To be continued.*]

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 65. To MAY 1, 1821. VOL. VI.

OF LIVING BIOGRAPHY.

(Continued from page 843.)

THE Biographical Sketches we have given of the leading Physicians, of every denomination, in this kingdom, being sufficient to answer the object we have had in view, in continuing this very delicate, and to us, very unpleasant subject, viz. to acquaint our readers with the *state* of medicine in this country, and of the *pretensions* of those to the implicit confidence of their patients, who assume the title of *regular* physicians; we shall now proceed, agreeably to a promise expressed in our last number, to recapitulate the evidence we have adduced from unquestionable authority, of the competency of each to exercise the healing art, with justice to their patients.

Dr. Baillie is, and has for many years been the leading physician of the metropolis, *i. e.* his advice has been, and still is resorted to, in difficult or dangerous cases, as *consulting* physician, and his opinion is in general, if not always, decisive. For this pre-eminence he is indebted to his knowledge of natural and morbid anatomy, a knowledge which is necessary to enable a physician to ascertain the seat and nature of diseases of the viscera, or any internal part. With the means of cure, which are of equal consequence to *the patient*, the Doctor does not pretend to be so well acquainted. The remedies he employs are comparatively few, and these are generally of the milder kind. It has been said of him, that if the medicines he prescribes do no good they will do no harm. The treatment of disease should, we conceive, be proportioned to its progress, and the importance of the part attacked, in the animal economy. We often meet with disease in which a bold practice is absolutely necessary to save the life of the patient. The Doctor being unacquainted with chemistry, seldom ventures on the active chemical remedies, which are unquestionably the most valuable we possess. In his work on morbid anatomy, so much praised by many high medical characters, we have not been able to discover any thing to admire; and those who fancy it to be a work of superior merit, admit that it throws no light whatever, either on the cause, prevention, or treatment of the diseases which it describes.

The Doctor is an able anatomico-physician. His professional knowledge is, in fact, more *mechanical* than *scientific*, and this, we conceive, accounts for his having sanctioned certain by-laws of the College of Physicians, to destroy that spirit of emulation which so powerfully tends to the promotion of science.

Our sketches of Sir Henry Halford, Drs. Powell, Cooke, Maton, Lambe, and others, are valuable guides for junior practitioners. They point out the road which leads to *true* honour. In the trying hour of

affliction, they can bring the aid each department of medicine affords, to the relief of their patients. To the guidance of such men, a patient resigns himself with the certain conviction, that all that art can do will be faithfully done to restore him to health. He is satisfied no *wild theories* or *flights of fancy* will be put into practice, and that his life will not be tampered with, for the sake of lucre. Our non-medical readers will naturally inquire, why such men should countenance by-laws, which militate against the progress of science, and of course, the good of the community? Why they have not opposed laws which are illiberal, and clearly adopted from sordid motives, is to us a matter of astonishment. The existence of such laws we regard as a proof that the majority of the college does not consist of such characters. Physicians, acquainted with every branch of medicine, being only capable of affording patients the full benefit of medicine in its present improved state, we consider the only ones that are entitled to the distinction of *regular* physicians, having received a *proper*, and therefore a *regular* education.

The lives of Drs. Ainslie, Stone, Pemberton, Warren, Sir Lucas Pepys, &c. are highly interesting, inasmuch as they throw much light on *fashionable* and *classical* medicine. These gentlemen can talk Latin, Greek and English, at the bed-sides of their patients, and in the *dead* languages every thing must be learned, if not scientific. They style themselves *regular* physicians. They can write a prescription in elegant Latin, and therefore the medicine must be good. Having had the same University education as the Clergy of the Protestant Church, they have also the great advantage of being able to administer comfort to the soul in *hopeless* cases of diseases, cases which are not of rare occurrence in *fashionable* medicine. This class of physicians has been denominated *clerico-physicians*.

The sketches of Dr. Babington, Dr. Ferris, Sir Matthew Tierney, Dr. Farre, &c. also possess great interest. These physicians having been educated in the schools of anatomy, surgery, chemistry, &c. are enabled to bring the whole power of medicine to the assistance of their patients. On commencing practice, they were *practically* acquainted with the *symptoms* of diseases, and the *effects* of medicine. Notwithstanding they are second to none, they are termed by the college, *irregular* physicians. The college therefore refuse to admit them into their body, and grant them licences to practise in *simple cases* of disease!! Not having resided at an English University, or acquired their *classical* education there, *they* assert that their admission would derogate from their dignity!

There are other physicians, who boast of superior knowledge of some particular department; for instance, Dr. Pearson, Dr. Marcet, &c. pride themselves on their chemical knowledge. This class is termed *chemico-physicians*. Dr. Thornton, &c. on botany; these are termed botanico-physicians. Others confine their practice to midwifery, as Dr. Hawkins, Dr. Sims, &c.; these are denominated physician-accoucheurs; others to mental disease, which are vulgarly termed "mad doctors."

The College of Physicians therefore forms a very curious compound. On the obstacles this institution throws in the way of medical science, the spirit of catholicism, by which it is governed, the stationary state medicine has continued in their body, and their *honorable* motives in op-

posing the Apothecaries' Bill, their inconsistencies, their shameful neglect of their duty to the public, &c. &c. we shall make some observations in our next number.

TYPHUS FEVER.—Dr. Uwins has published a paper on this disease from Mr. Shilleto, a respectable surgeon of Putney, in favour of the depleting treatment, and of the opinion (now, we believe, entertained by few practitioners) of its being infectious. Mr. Collingwood, in a late essay, contends that typhus fever may be cured solely by the use of saline purgatives, which he considers capable of answering the purpose of bleeding, without producing the debilitating effects which follow the loss of blood. He also asserts, that "an abstraction of blood was frequently the means of converting a fever, which *might have been of a mild nature*, into one of a malignant type." This opinion, Mr. Shilleto pronounces "phantasmal, the offspring of *common* prejudice, with which experienced practitioners have too often to contend;" but coming, as it does, from a gentleman of respectable practice, and of professional honours, he has thought proper to notice it.

Mr. Shilleto, it appears, for many years, has had considerable experience in typhus fever. He has seen an epidemic fever of this type, which he conceives was in the highest degree infectious: it affected *every* individual of different families, and *successive* nurses, and even neighbours. In this fever bleeding (as recommended by Drs. Armstrong and Bateman, noticed in a former number) evidently succeeded in saving the lives of the afflicted. Mr. Collingwood says, "bleeding, if admissible, can be *only* so, at the *commencement* of the disease, and when the patient is *young* and *plethoric*." Mr. Shilleto has, however, published *several* cases, which prove that blood may be taken with decided advantage when attended with local congestion of blood vessels, "even though a dried furred tongue, of a dark brown hue, exists," which, in the opinion of many practitioners, contra-indicate the use of the lancet.

"Although I have witnessed," says Mr. Shilleto, "no fatal instance of typhus fever since I have followed Dr. Armstrong's plan of treating it, by occasional bleedings, and have, at the present time, no case for which I have any fear; yet I am too well aware of the insufficiency of our means and best exertions on many occasions (even under the most promising circumstances) to suppose that success can always be depended upon. I must, however, observe, that Mr. Collingwood's practice of saline purgatives is not infallible, as he lost three cases under his favourite plan of treatment; and he seems to be hardly borne out in his logical inference, that, '*from what he has said, it will appear that typhus fever may be* CURED *solely by saline purgatives, and occasionally the cold affusion.*' His fatal cases were those 'of diarrhœa and *high delirium* from the *beginning* of the diseases;' and, considering the common causes of those urgent symptoms as arising from *too* great a determination of blood to the brain, biliary system, or intestines, I think that his medical neighbours, while he puts himself in battle array against their practice, may fairly reply to him, that there may be *occasionally* other faults than those of *commission* in the practice of our art.

"I shall pass by several points in Mr. Collingwood's second essay,

on which that gentleman's experience and my own lead to different conclusions. I must, however, observe, that, from the sympathetic affection of the stomach under peritonæal and uterine inflammation, it has often been my misfortune to find that organ not disposed to bear even small doses of the neutral salts, much less those large potations of the sulphate of magnesia in water (from half an ounce to an ounce and a half), as given by that gentleman; and I suspect that he himself may have been sometimes deceived in placing confidence in them, so exhibited."

In the case he describes, a Mrs. F., a robust young woman, was blooded to the extent of eighteen ounces, and a saline cathartic administered. 'The blood drawn,' Mr. C. observes, 'had a buffy coat, but the patient did not experience any advantage from its abstraction.' On the following day he did not repeat the venesection, 'because the tension and swelling of the abdomen were much increased.'

The bowels, however, were still 'constipated;' therefore, it is evident, that the saline purgative given the day before was not retained on the stomach, or, being so retained, was not sufficient to produce that free discharge from the intestines which is so essential in all puerperal diseases, particularly when connected with inflammation. "Upon the obstruction in the bowels having been removed by a repetition of the saline purgative, with injections, &c., the patient became better, and recovered."

Mr. Collingwood afterwards says, that "although, in the case of Mrs. F., bleeding appeared to be indicated, *it gave no relief*, and her recovery was very protracted." But if Mr. Collingwood was correct in believing this to have been a case of peritonæal and uterine inflammation, with tension of the abdomen and constipated bowels, a quick and full pulse, and buffy blood, it seems difficult to believe that a free bleeding was not of some advantage as to the ultimate result.

Mr. Collingwood has experienced great success from the use of warm injections into the uterus, in various cases of uterine inflammation, &c. which have been exhibited "by means of a syringe especially constructed for that purpose." What the particular construction of the instrument is which allows of that viscus being *repeatedly* injected, under the tenderness that usually accompanies its inflammatory state, without producing great pain and mischief from the mechanical irritation, that gentleman does not explain. The injections were composed of "warm water, milk, oil, &c. at the temperature of from eighty to ninety degrees." Perhaps there is no one circumstance connected with the animal economy more remarkable than the uniform temperature of the blood, and the internal cavities of the body, which, we are taught to believe, even in the extremes of heat and cold, under a tropical sun, or the chilling aspect of an arctic winter, never descends below ninety-four or ninety-five degrees; and this in a state of health. Under the particular diseases in which Mr. Collingwood injected the uterus (milk and puerperal fevers, uterine inflammation, &c.), the animal temperature must have been increased, according to what is commonly observed in these cases, to at least from one hundred to one hundred and eight degrees, or more; therefore I cannot understand how the injections so used, that is, from fifteen to twenty degrees lower, and, of course, *colder* (as 'warm' and

'cold' are but relative terms, according to the difference of temperature in any bodies brought into contact) than the cavity into which they were introduced can possibly '*have acted upon the general principles of the WARM bath,*' and '*tended to relax the muscular fibre,*' &c.

"I am desirous of giving Mr. Collingwood every credit for his practical information, but still conceive that the benefit he has witnessed from injections, has not arisen from their effect as '*warm*' but as '*cold,*' or at all events as cooling and evaporative applications; and if Mr. Collingwood is incorrect in his views on this head, it is so far satisfactory, that it allows of a possibility of his having also been fallible in the estimate which he formed of the comparative success of his professional friends, who did not, in typhus fever, worship exclusively the G—ds he adores."

RHEUMATISM.—Dr. Uwins has published the following cases, to illustrate the specific powers of the colchicum seeds in the cure of rheumatism.

"Thomas Butler, aged 41, by trade a nailmaker, residing at No. 28, Queen Street, Seven Dials, had been afflicted with rheumatism for seven years, been in two hospitals, and discharged without any material relief. Began, the 7th of February, to take one drachm of the wine of the colchicum seeds three times a day; and was so much better on the 21st as to be able to walk in his room, with a little assistance, before which time he was scarcely able to move in his bed. He now takes the wine night and morning, and is able to go out, and occasionally calls on the reporter, having but little pain.

"Christopher Fairbrother, aged 38, a smith, resides at No. 35, Short's Gardens; has been subject to severe rheumatism several years, during which time he has scarcely been free from pain: he had been under the care of several men, without deriving any permanent relief. Took one teaspoonful of the wine of the colchicum seeds twice a day, for several days; and although he is still in pain, he declares he has had more ease since he has taken the wine than he has had for three years.

"William Batham, a smith, lives at 36, Great St. Andrew Street; has had rheumatism six months, been in two hospitals, and has been salivated, without any decided benefit. Began to take the colchicum wine the 5th of March, twice a day; and is now able to go to work. The other cases of rheumatism here reported, have been relieved by the usual remedies. Not a day passes over our head without hearing of extraordinary cures of rheumatism and gout, by either the simple or alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds. In chronic rheumatism, or in acute bordering on chronic, or of some weeks standing, we have found the alcaline wine to succeed far beyond our most sanguine expectation, in conjunction with an infusion of the buchu leaves in the following proportion:

"Take of buchu leaves, four drachms, infuse in a pint of boiling water, in a close vessel, for four hours, and then strain off the liquor; when cold, add an ounce of the alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds. A wineglassful of this mixture to be taken twice a day, i. e. two hours before dinner, and one hour before bed-time.

"The buchu leaves have been long held in great estimation by the na-

tives of the Cape of Good Hope, as a remedy for rheumatism. They not only take an infusion of them, but apply an embrocation, a poultice, and an ointment of them externally, in cases of rheumatic pains. The report of savages or uncivilized men, of the properties of herbs or drugs, have always turned out in some degree to be correct. The opinion they entertain of an article is always founded on repeated experience, and is more entitled to attention than the reports of many medical men of civilized countries, whose object in recommending a remedy is to give publicity to his name, or in some way or other to benefit *himself*. The buchu leaves are a warm and grateful stomachic, and the many trials we have made of them in cases of rheumatism, chronic gouty affections, and morbid irritation of the bladder and urethra, justify our recommending them as a remedy for those complaints."

DISLOCATION OF A VERTEBRA OF THE NECK.—Mr. Gaitshell, of Rotherhithe, has published the following case of this very serious accident, which lately occurred in his practice. Mrs. C., aged 60, having ascended some steep stairs in the dark, attempted to force the door of a bed-room where her husband had retired to rest. By some accident she lost her balance, fell backward, and dislocated the *seventh vertebra* of her neck. Being near to his residence, Mr. Forman, his assistant, accompanied him to the house, where he found the poor woman lying on her back, paralysed below the margin of her chest, while a tingling sensation was felt in the arms, more particularly painful at the extremities of her fingers, at the same time the muscles of both arms were partially paralysed. On examining the part that was injured, which was very difficult, from the severity of pain she experienced, and loss of voluntary power, Mr. G. discovered a deep hollow where the seventh cervical vertebra is situated, which induced him to consider it dislocated; to remedy which he attempted reduction by extending the neck, but without a beneficial result. He therefore gave an opinion, that the case would prove fatal, which in fifty hours was verified. She was freely bled, both from the arm and with leeches; attempted to be purged, but without effect, while her urine was drawn off with a catheter. The insensibility to stimuli was so complete, that nothing applied to the skin produced the smallest sensation; but above the diaphragm the effect was not so distinguishable, as she breathed freely, and her heart beat seventy in a minute, while the œsophagus performed its office, though imperfectly. Her speech was injured at the onset, which hourly grew worse; so that, in thirty hours, she lost the power of articulation, became insensible, and gradually expired. The day the body was to be inspected, being engaged in midwifery, Mr. G. appointed his assistants, Mr. Forman and Mr. Parks, to examine the body, when they found what he at first suspected, that the seventh cervical vertebra was displaced *without fracture*, while the muscular fibres, posterior to the injury, were very much lacerated, and the ligaments completely torn, with considerable effusion of blood. This explains the palsy and consequent death of the patient.

The reduction of a dislocated vertebra is often impracticable, and those cases where it has been effected, have terminated fatally. We often hear of dislocation of the neck from the fall off a horse, being reduced,

and going on favorably; but they were merely sprains, and not dislocations of the vertebræ. The injury the spinal marrow necessarily sustains by a dislocation of a vertebra, always terminates in death.

We are sorry Mr. Gaitshell was not present when his pupils examined the vertebræ of the neck, for we are decidedly of opinion that a vertebra of the neck, back, or loins, cannot be dislocated without fracture, and we think Mr. Gaitshell's pupils, on examining the spine of a skeleton, will find that our opinion is correct.

TIC DOULOUREUX.—Dr. Risk, of Plymouth, has published the following case of this disease, under the name of severe neuralgic affection:

R—d H—ns, Esq., Captain in the Royal Navy, aged 53 years, of middle stature, has been afflicted for several years past, with palsy of one side of his body. It commenced first in the great toe of the left foot, and progressively advanced upwards, till the whole of that side (the head excepted) was affected. He carefully examined the spine, but could discover nothing like an appearance of curvature or any other disease. The bowels were generally torpid, and often obstinately constipated, long prior to, and ever since the commencement of the paralytic affection. He continued in the active duties of his profession (and even made a voyage to America and the West Indies) until 1813, when he came on shore, and in conformity to medical advice, his head was shaved, and a *considerable quantity of blood* taken from the temples, which he said, evidently produced no salutary effect. Electricity and friction were afterwards employed without any apparent advantage. In 1814, he consulted Mr. Abernethy, *by letter*, who recommended attention to be paid to the state of the digestive organs, and sent a prescription for medicines. In the prosecution of this plan, the Captain experienced considerable advantage; but hearing that some paralytic cases had been successfully treated by the "steam bath," he put himself under the care of a medical gentleman, in the summer of 1815, and, for six weeks, underwent the steaming process. In October he returned to his friends at Saltash, and immediately after his arrival, the head, for the *first time*, became affected. November 11, 1815, he applied to Dr. Risk; the extremities of the left side were then paralytic, the muscles very considerably wasted, and the flexors of the fingers morbidly contracted, locomotion weak and very imperfect. He complained of most excruciating pain in the *left side* of the head, darting in paroxysms through the globe of the eye, and inferior part of the os frontis to the brain; the paroxysms were frequent in their periods of attack, but did not continue longer than a quarter or half a minute, during which the blood vessels of that side of the head and neck became tinged, and the integuments appeared like scarlet, the whole body was thrown into the most violent agitation, and the patient, although an officer of undaunted firmness, was constrained to cry out in the utmost agony. The pulse at the wrists suffered no material change from the state of health, generally 72, and regular. The digestion in a very deranged state, bowels obstinately costive, and the discharges when obtained, fetid and almost black, the pupils acutely sensible to the stimulus of light.

These symptoms pointed out the mode of treatment. After *much* trouble, says the Doctor, the alimentary canal was *cleaned* of its *morbid*

contents, which with *general* and *topical* blood-letting, contributed in restoring the *balance* of the circulation, whilst strict attention to the biliary secretion produced a more healthy action in the digestive organs. The cerebral paroxysms ceased, and for a short time he enjoyed his usual state of health, taking occasionally pills composed of the compound extract of bitter apple, calomel, and antimonial powder, observing also a strict, low (antiphlogistic) regimen. The captain had been heretofore a pretty free liver. As the winter advanced, the affection of the head or brain came into action. He had then recourse to cupping, leeches, shaving, and blistering the head, a seton in the neck, pediluvium, with unremitted attention to the *hepatic system* and *digestive organs*. By the arrival of the summer months, he was so much recovered as to lay aside *all* medicines, &c. except the occasional use of his alterative pills. He drove about the country in his gig, and even visited places of amusement. But alas, as the winter came on, the same series of symptoms again presented themselves, and a similar mode of treatment carried him through the winter of 1817. He had not however so good a summer as the preceding one; there were frequent returns of cerebral affection and hepatic derangement; the winter of 1818 commenced with every symptom of approaching dissolution; he sunk to the lowest ebb of debility and emaciation, the spasms for a time ceased to harass him. During this respite from pain, he regained strength and flesh, but with the return of these returned also his old enemy the spasms, darting through the head with increased violence; nor have they since that period up to the present moment left him twelve hours at any one time. The pain now appears to originate in, and extend along the first branch of the fifth pair of nerves. For these last two years, venesection, leeches, and cupping, have been entirely relinquished, whilst attention has been principally directed to the hepatic system and digestive organs. Opium, henbane, deadly nightshade, camphor, &c. have all been administered in succession, without any evident advantage. Small and repeated doses of calomel, combined with some laxative, together with the occasional application of blisters, and frequent pediluvium, have been the most successful means since the abstraction of blood was relinquished. Although the spasms still continue with equal violence, yet the face does not now become flushed during the paroxysms, as in the first instance, but remains pale and sallow. His appetite is pretty good; the *paralytic* affection has suffered no alteration whatever, and the mental faculties have continued throughout unimpaired; he has had three attacks of gout in the left foot within the last twelve months, without however producing any alleviation of the pain in the face. The gout is not hereditary. A division of the super-orbitar portion of the first branch of the fifth pair of nerves was proposed, but to which the captain would not submit.

If the captain's constitution has so successfully resisted the treatment by poisons, depletion, &c. as to be still alive, and under the care of Dr. Risk, we advise the Doctor to give the carbonate of iron a trial, in the dose recommended by Surgeon Hutchinson. The mode of treatment in tic douloureux, recommended by this scientific practitioner, we have found to succeed in several cases, and we continue to receive very favourable accounts of its beneficial effects in acute pains in different

parts of the body, of the nature of the tic-douloureux. The saline preparations of iron, probably proves beneficial in chronic affections of nerves, by increasing the red particles of blood, or otherwise altering the quality of that fluid, so as to bring the nerve into healthy action, by promoting the process of calorification, in which the nerves are doubtless concerned. In all the cases of tic douloureux, in which they have proved beneficial, the patients have observed, that the *natural* warmth of the part had returned.

HYDROPHOBIA.—The following case of this formidable disease lately occurred in the practice of Mr. Mines, a surgeon of Diss. "Robert Merry, footman to Robert Sheriffe, Esq. of Diss, first complained of having had a very restless night, in consequence of irritation about his throat, with great difficulty of swallowing, even saliva; oppression of the chest; his pulse was under 70, soft and regular, without fever, and apparently any inflammatory action. A draught with camphor julep, &c. was poured out for him, which he appeared very anxious to take, but struggled much from every attempt, declaring he could not swallow. However, with great difficulty, a tea-spoonful or two was got down, which brought on considerable spasm about the throat, so that all subsequent efforts to get down food, or liquid of any kind, were fruitless, as every attempt brought on most violent startings, and even the name or sight of water was horrid to him, and when poured from one vessel to another, it instantly threw him into strong convulsions. Full forty ounces of blood were taken from the arm without producing fainting, or even any particular change or diminution of symptoms, and the pulse varied very little from the loss of blood. During the bleeding, and for a short time after, he several times called out he thought he was the better for it; but as the symptoms did not abate, and the blood had not the slighest inflammatory appearance, it was not thought advisable to repeat the bleeding. Five o'clock, p. m. Dr. Shorting saw the patient, and after witnessing the symptoms as before described, believed it to be a true case of hydrophobia; and, although no reliance could be placed in any thing, was anxious that mercurial frictions should be used largely, and considerable doses of laudanum given by injections, neither of which produced any sensible effect. During this disease the patient was at intervals perfectly calm and rational, answering all questions till nearly the last, when his convulsions became so strong, that it was thought necessary to put on the strait waistcoat for safety; to which he made no resistance. There had been no slaver about the mouth till nearly the last, when, half an hour before his dissolution, he vomited up several spoonfuls of froth; and a few minutes after died without a groan or a struggle, labouring under this dreadful disease in its active form only twenty-two hours. This poison was probably received about three weeks prior to the attack, at which time he waited upon a terrier that died of the disease, having been bitten by a mad dog passing through Diss the latter end of July last, which terrier had likewise worried and slavered over another dog, that the servant assisted in wiping and cleaning, but from neither of the animals did he receive any bite, nor had he apparently any abrasion or scratch of the skin."

Permission to open the body was denied by the patient's relatives.

To us it certainly appears most extraordinary, that neither Dr. Shorting nor Mr. Mines should have adopted the mode of treatment recommended by Dr. Reid, which we have noticed in a former number, or have given the prussic acid a trial. Copious bleeding, and mercurial friction having failed to produce any beneficial effect whatever, in every case in which they have been employed, one would suppose that no practitioner, who reads the journals he takes in, or is acquainted with what is going on in the medical world, would think of repeating the experiments. The case is, not one medical man in one hundred knows any thing of the contents of the periodical publications, and of the communications and experiments of those members who are actively engaged in attempting at least to promote the science of medicine for the benefit of mankind. Too many are satisfied with that knowledge of medicine, which will enable them to carry on the fee and draught trade with success to themselves.

THE COLCHICUM SEEDS.—The considerable advance in the price of these seeds, which has lately taken place, in consequence of the great demand for them, and the small stock of them which is kept by dealers in seeds and herbs, several other seeds, very closely resembling them, have been and still are sold for them. Mr. Gray having ascertained this fact, has very properly published a description of a *true* colchicum seed, in order that the reputation of the remedy may not suffer by the fraud. The following is a copy of Mr. Gray's communication.

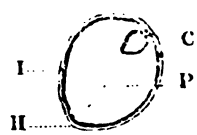
"Seeds, ovate globose, about one eighth of an inch in diameter.

"Integuments, simple, soft, spongy, membranaceous, thin, dull, reddish brown, closely adherent to the perisperm.

"Perisperm, or albumen, hard, rather cartilaginous, pellucid, pale, not in the least divided, of the same shape as the seed.

"Corculum, or embryo, very small, ovate, globose, not in the least divided, whitish, placed nearly opposite to the hylum, or that part where the seed is affixed to the parent plant, but out of the axis of the seed. Base pointing to the hylum, slender, apex very obtuse."

The following is a transverse section of the seed from the hylum, to where the corculum grows out, much enlarged.



"The capsules should be gathered just before they are ripe, and then dried in the shade; and it would be better to keep the seeds in the capsule till they are used, in the same manner as is usual with the lesser cardamoms."

Mr. Gray has seen a flat seed sold for the colchicum seeds, which appears to belong to a plant of the family Liliacea. The seeds are very flat like several of the plants belonging to the family *asphodeli*, as the *hyacinthus nutans*, the common hare-bell, &c.; but the integuments of

all these are crustaceous, brittle shining back; and in the family sinilaceæ, it is thin, membranaceous, and they are enclosed in a berry.

In the present number, we have given several cases of rheumatism, in which the wine of the colchicum seeds was administered with great success, and under the head of gout, we have also noticed its specific effects in subduing gouty irritation and inflammation.

RED GRAVEL.—The following is an *exact* copy of a case in which the exhibition of magnesia was followed by considerable relief, communicated by Mr. Sutliffe, being the third of a series of what he has termed "*Medical Sketches.*"

"During my attendance on *a very excellent family in Old Street*, I was conversing with Mrs. H., on a domestic visitation; and, on a sudden, a little boy came in, of a delicate appearance, presenting himself to view: our conversation was abruptly suspended. I suspected, by his *awkward gait*, that there was stone in the bladder: every reply to my inquiries confirmed me in the suspicion: he had long laboured under pain in the region of the loins; and there was frequent appearance of *calculous matter*, occasional interruptions in the flow of urine, &c."

"Having seen the operation of lithotomy, thirty-four years ago, performed so frequently at Norwich hospital, I anticipated the most gloomy results (although, in that excellent receptacle, I never remember an instance of a fatal termination in young subjects), and having read Mr. Brande's paper to the Royal Society, on the effects of magnesia, in similar cases, recently published, I advised a trial; and, on the second day, so large a quantity of uric acid (red gravel) was expelled, and this continuing, within a few days all apprehensions of lithotomy vanished; and the subject appears to be, with the occasional use of magnesia, completely relieved from calculus. The grateful parents are *always* prompt in acknowledging their obligations."

PULMONARY CONSUMPTION.—Within the last twenty years several remedies and modes of treatment have been *strongly* recommended by professional men, and as many nostrums advertised, for the *cure* of this disease. The Prussic acid, the Iceland moss, the uva ursi, Peruvian bark, tar vapour and water, the hedge hyssop, the foxglove, mercury, stramonium, oxygen, carburetted hydrogene, meadow saffron, the hemlock, &c. have still their advocates.

An institution has been some years established in the City of London, for the purpose of ascertaining the effects of an atmosphere of a regular temperature in cases of pulmonary consumption, which the subscribers to the charity were led to believe, by the representation of Dr. Buxton and others, would immediately check the progress of the disease, and ultimately cure it. Such an institution in this metropolis was therefore, on such authority, deemed a great desideratum, and many philanthropic characters contributed largely to enable the *benevolent* proposers to carry their plan into execution.

The *infallible* specifics for the *cure* of pulmonary consumption, sold at the patent medicine shops, even under "Right Honourable patronage," are also very numerous. Notwithstanding these discoveries of regular practitioners and the *infallible* specifics, &c. of *regular* and *irregular*

quacks, the bills of mortality inform us, that at no period has the disease proved more destructive to the human race than within the last five years!!

Many of the remedies recommended by professional gentlemen, as the Prussic acid, the colchicum, the hemlock, mercury, uva ursi, and hedge hyssop, are no doubt valuable *auxiliaries* to the *medical* treatment of the disease in different stages; but we have no hesitation in asserting, that not one of them, either alone, or combined with others, ever succeeded in the *cure* of a case of *real* consumption. We often meet with a disease similar to pulmonary consumption, arising from morbid irritation throughout the membranous lining of the windpipe and its ramifications (Bronchia), attended with the *leading* symptoms of *real* consumption, as copious expectoration, harassing cough, quick pulse, and emaciation; and in such case, the prussic acid, and the vegetable anodyne, with the usual medicinal and dietetic auxiliaries, as emulsions, blisters, asses' milk, the Iceland moss, &c. by allaying the morbid irritation, will no doubt succeed in restoring the patient to health; and the medical man who had been in attendance, not being able to discriminate the membranous disease from *real* consumption, supposes that the remedies he employed, particularly the most *active* one, had succeeded in the cure of pulmonary consumption. In the far advanced stage of this membranous disease, or spurious consumption, which now depends on relaxation of the membrane, the uva ursi, the Peruvian bark, preparations of iron, as Griffith's mixture, and mercury, will succeed in curing the disease; and hence the reputation some have assigned to them of curing pulmonary consumption.

The disease constituting *real* pulmonary consumption, extends beyond the membrane, lining the windpipe and its branches. The cellular substance of the lungs, termed parenchyma, is the seat of *true* pulmonary consumption. The spurious kind, as we have observed, depends on morbid irritation of the nerves, of the internal membrane of the windpipe and its branches; but in true consumption there is organic disease, the *structure* of the cellular substance of the lungs, &c. being altered or destroyed by partial suppurations, and from this seat of the malady, the irritation extends to the membrane lining the windpipe, &c.

The spurious kind, we believe, very rarely, if ever, proves fatal, unless through injurious treatment, or unhealthy condition of the constitution, the irritation should extend to the substance of the lungs, and produce structural disorganization. The membranous disease is much influenced by states of the atmosphere, and generally terminates when it becomes mild. During its first stage anodynes and other constitutional remedies succeed in removing the cause. In the advanced stage such treatment is injurious, and when continued, effusion of serum ensues, producing either general or local dropsy. Tonic and stimulating remedies, as the uva ursi, oxygen, sea air, preparations of iron, and the quack medicine containing balsam tolu, vinegar, iron, &c. with a generous diet, succeed in this stage of the malady, which, from the opacity and ill taste of the mucus expectorated, and the emaciation of the body, has strong resemblance to *true* pulmonary consumption. Hence the reputation medi-

cines opposite in their qualities have acquired, as remedies for pulmonary consumption.

About fifteen years ago, we established a dispensary for consumptive patients, under the patronage of his Majesty and several noblemen. We had often the pleasure of discharging patients, who, at the time of admission, were apparently in the last stage of pulmonary consumption, perfectly cured. We had, however, as often the mortification of having patients, who, when they were admitted, were apparently not so ill as those whom we had restored to health, but in whom the disease, notwithstanding we endeavoured to proportion our treatment to the obstinacy of the symptoms, advanced and terminated fatally. Further experience, observation, and dissections have satisfied our minds, that the cases in which we succeeded, were not *real* cases of pulmonary consumption; that they were, in fact, the irritative affection of the membrane lining the trachea, &c., unattended with diseased structure, or catarrhal affections, in subjects disposed to pulmonary consumption or of scrofulous habits.

The spurious consumption, as we have termed it, in a dissertation on the Iceland moss, the *membranous* or *mucous* species is easily distinguished from the *true* pulmonary consumption in all its stages. The true disease, on its commencement, is attended with great difficulty of breathing, palpitation of the heart, head-ache, stupor, giddiness, short dry cough and costiveness. The affection of the chest and head arises from the *mechanical* effects of the loaded state of the parenchyma of the lungs, which, to a person acquainted with anatomy, must appear obvious. The membranous or spurious sort, on the contrary, commences in the wind-pipe, often about the glottis; is unattended with palpitation of the heart; the paroxysms of cough are also longer, not excited by distending the lungs, nor by a deep inspiration, and is attended with expectoration, generally of a saltish taste. The treatment proper in the former disease, is also applicable to the latter. The object in true consumption, as we have observed in a former number, is to *localise* the disease, that is to quiet the system, so that we may say the progress of the disease is not favoured by it. This treatment will succeed in *curing* the spurious kind, and in case cough, difficulty of breathing, still continue, we may for certainty conclude, that some organic mischief has commenced. Having rendered it, as it were local, we mean, with respect to the state of circulation of the blood, and the nervous system, for we do not mean to infer that the disease is ever in this quiet state, not constitutional, or that the constitution is not in fault, with respect to the *nature* of the disease; the object of practice is to increase the action of the absorbents, for the removal of the matter deposited in the parenchyma, and thereby prevent suppuration and serious structural mischief. This may be done by the cautious use of mercury and fox-glove, with the occasional use of the colchicum, aperients, bleeding or blistering, as the local symptoms or any constitutional disturbance may indicate. This stage we have termed the middle stage, being between the first and last stages. In proceeding with the view of removing interstitial deposit, we must take care to keep the system in a quiet state, by mild diet and by very gentle exercise.

When the lungs have sustained structural disease from suppuration or ulceration in the cellular substance, &c. constituting the last stage of the disease, our mode of proceeding must be changed. The object of practice is now to promote that process in the body termed *mutation.* That is, to remove the *diseased* structure, and to promote the deposition of healthy or new matter. Such a change cannot be effected by the use of sedatives and the quieting mode of treatment by diet, &c. which are generally employed. The inhalation of warm air, as recommended by Dr. Buxton and others, evidently favours the suppurative process, and in no stage of the disease, is it, in our opinion, proper. We have always found it to accelerate the disease in every stage, and during the last stage, to hasten considerably its fatal termination.

If its influence were confined to the *surface* of the body, it would, no doubt, prove a very useful auxiliary, by producing a determination of blood to the skin; but the application of it to the diseased organs is uniformly injurious, and we are persuaded, that cases of real consumption have been brought by it to an unfavourable termination in two months, which would have run double that time. To derive advantage from a warm atmosphere, the exterior of the body should only be exposed to it, and the patient, at the same time, should inhale an atmosphere of a lower temperature.

To effect mutation of a diseased part, we must promote the action of the absorbent vessels, of the secerning extremities of arteries or nutrient vessels, and also that process in the system termed *sanguification* or making of blood. That diseased structure, is often removed by a power in the system, and that the body is undergoing mutation, *i. e.* old particles removed, and new ones deposited, are facts, no man acquainted with physiology or surgery will deny.

By abstracting blood, to a certain extent, we know that the absorbent system is brought into greater action and the process of sanguification is also increased. Here then is a very powerful auxiliary in effecting a healthy mutation of structural disease, and experience has convinced us that true pulmonary consumption, even in its last stage, may be cured by its judicious employment, and a proper diet. The practitioner must keep in mind the object of bleeding. It is not indicated either by *general* or *local* plethora. It is, in fact, contraindicated by the state of the sanguiferous system, and also by the general health. The object is, to promote the proeess of sanguification, and to rouse the action of the absorbents. For these purposes, an ounce of blood, *from a vein*, will answer; when the sanguiferous system is not overloaded, and general debility prevails, as well as twenty ounces, where an opposite state of the blood-vessels and the whole system exists.

After the loss of one or two ounces of *venous* blood, the pulse, in a day or two, will shew more strength and fulness, indicating that the powers of sanguification are roused. The body should be nourished by animal food, and a stomachic medicine employed (with or without an anodyne, as the state of lungs may indicate) to promote digestion. If the disease be so far advanced, that the strength of the system has very materially given way to it, venesection should not be employed until it has been invigorated by a meat diet or a stomachic. The meals should

consist of animal food only, and that too with its *red* juices, as the inside of *roasted* beef or mutton. Animal food, in this state, is not only more nutritious, but more easily digested, than when rendered brown by roasting or boiling. It is more easily converted into chyme than vegetables, and the chyle formed from it is more rich, and consequently contributes more to sanguification and to the solid structure of the body. It is a remarkable fact, that butchers, who live chiefly on animal food, are exempt from *true* pulmonary consumption. The object of this mode of treatment being to promote sanguification, and the mutation of diseased structure, animal food should be preferred.

Another fact of no small importance in this disease, is, that when a young person is confined to a vegetable diet, which is now a fashionable practice, to prevent consumption, his body advances in height but not in bulk. His chest elongates but not expands, his neck also grows proportionally long, in fact, he becomes of that form or shape which is termed "a *consumptive* make;" whereas, when he is allowed a proper proportion of animal food, his body does not attain so great an height, and his chest expands. Instead of the consumptive form, his body spreads out; he, in fact, gets in bulk what the other does in height. To deprive a person in a *growing* state of animal food, is therefore to predispose him to diseased lungs. We have not found meat, containing the *red* juice, or not rendered tough by over-roasting or boiling, and taken in moderation, to stimulate the system more than a diet consisting entirely of vegetables. The latter is unquestionably more difficult of digestion than the inside of roasted meat. No set of men are more healthy than those who live on rare meat.

To enable the lungs to perform their *chemical* office in the system, viz. of decarbonizing the blood, the patient should breathe two or three times a day, a gallon or two of pure oxygen; or the pure oxygen may be diffused throughout the atmosphere of the room, by placing in the fire of the apartment a small iron retort, containing manganese, with a long pipe, the end of which may be placed in cold water, to render the oxygen cool. In proportion as the system fills, and the pulse gains strength and fulness, the venesection must be repeated, and the quantity of blood taken, increased. This mode of treatment we have found to succeed in a great variety of structural diseases. In noticing Dr. Gregory's Treatise on Dropsy, we have made some observations on the effect of bleeding on the vital powers. Even in cases of direct debility, (that is unattended with either local or general plenitude) when the system of blood-vessels is rather under than overloaded, when the heart acts languidly, arising from no apparent cause; after tonic medicines, and stimulating means, had failed to invigorate the system, or in any degree to raise the vital powers, we have ordered two or three ounces of blood to be taken from a vein, with the view of promoting the process of sanguification, &c. and we have found the practice to succeed, the pulse becoming stronger, and the appetite improving, in a day or two afterwards, and it is on this principle that bleeding has succeeded, in cases of debility, as dropsy, diabetes, advanced typhus fever, &c. &c.

Indeed, we are inclined to believe, that many local and general diseases are the consequences of suspension of the process of sanguification,

as green sickness, organic diseases of the stomach, lungs, &c. and disorders of the digestive organs, the *nutrition* of the parts being in consequence either suspended or very imperfect; and why abstraction of blood, so highly extolled by some practitioners, as a remedy for diseases of debility, has not succeeded in the practice of others, is, we conceive, owing to its not having been properly regulated by the state of the sanguiferous system and general health. For instance, diabetes is sometimes attended with an overloaded state of the sanguiferous system, although the body is greatly emaciated, and in that case, the abstraction of blood, to promote the object, viz. of sanguification, should be copious; but when the system of blood vessels is in an opposite state, the small abstraction of an ounce or two of blood will have the desired effect, and a large one, by reducing the vital powers, might endanger life.

In the process of making blood the nervous system is no doubt much engaged, and by bringing it into healthy action, many diseases may be either relieved or cured. Bleeding is therefore not only an important remedy, in cases of inflammatory affections and of congestion of blood-vessels, but also in cases of direct debility.

Many medicines, no doubt, are capable of increasing the action of absorbent vessels, as mercury, foxglove, &c., and in cases of organic diseases, as of the lungs, &c. they have afforded relief; but to *cure* the patient, or to remove diseased structure, it will also be necessary to promote sanguification, and to produce rich good chyle, and for these purposes bleeding, at intervals, and animal food, are the most powerful means.

That sanguification is increased by venesection is clear, from the plethora, which so soon follows it. By the system of purging, recommended by Dr. Hamilton, sanguification and absorption are promoted; but as indigestion or chylification is thereby interrupted, it is not so efficacious as bleeding, where the object is to produce a healthy mutation. To this mode of treatment, which we have found successful in many cases of diseased lungs and bowels, many will object, because it is diametrically opposite to that which has been for many years employed by physicians of great experience and observation. That practice, however, has *uniformly* failed. The object of our mode of treatment is the *cure* of a disease, which medical men of the first experience only attempt to palliate. It is a practice which medical men well acquainted with physiology and with animal life will not condemn; and we have no hesitation in stating, that the results will render it very general.

When a lung is nearly destroyed by the ulcerative process, which is not uncommon, when the other is not much affected, we do not mean to say that by such a treatment the patient may be restored to health; but we do state, that when the disease is advanced in the last stage, the patient may be cured by it.

FLATULENCE.—Within the last three months we have received several letters from "subscribers" residing in different parts of the kingdom, some requesting us to give an article on Flatulence, and others soliciting instructions for treating it. There are two sorts of air

evolved in the intestinal canal to an extent as to prove a source of annoyance. That in the stomach is the carbonic acid gas, and that in the lower part of the intestines, viz. in the colon, is hydrogen or inflammable gas. The air extricated in the stomach, viz. the carbonic acid, is the product of fermentation.

In our fifth and sixth numbers we have entered fully into the process of digestion of food in the human stomach. We have there stated, that the food, both vegetable and animal, is converted into chyme by the chemical action of a fluid, secreted by the glands of the stomach, termed the gastric fluid, and by the action of the stomach it is blended together, so as to form an uniform mass. When the gastric juice is healthy, and the food is proper, and the stomach not overloaded, digestion will be performed without the production of carbonic acid gas; but if the stomach be in a state of increased or diminished excitement, the secretion of gastric juice will not be healthy, and of course not equal to the proper solution of the food. In this case, we find digestion is assisted or finished by fermentation, which appears to us to be nature's secondary process of digestion, when the gastric juice is incapable of effecting a solution. During this secondary process, the products of fermentation appear, as carbonic acid gas, &c.

If the stomach be in a state of increased excitement, or as Mr. Abernethy observes, in a *feverish* state, which is generally the case with gormandizers, inebriates and gouty subjects, the temperature exceeds its natural standard, the consequence of which is, the fermentation rapidly advances to the acetous stage, and an acid is often produced so powerful as to excite considerable irritation and pain in the stomach, vulgarly termed heartburn. This sensation is often acutely painful, when the stomach contracts on the acid contents after eructation or the escape of gas by the gullet.

When the stomach is in a state of debility or *diminished* excitement, which is generally attended with a languid circulation, pallid skin, coldness of the extremities, general relaxation of the muscular system, and if not with dropsical swelling of the legs, a strong disposition to it, the fermentation does not advance beyond the first stage. Such patients are, therefore, free from acidity and heartburn, their only complaint being flatulence or distention of the stomach. The cause of the process of which flatulence is the consequence, is therefore very opposite, one arising from increased excitement (which is by far the most common) and the other from relaxation or debility of the stomach, which occurs in elderly people or debauchees.

Flatulence of the stomach is therefore a mere symptom of a disordered condition of the stomach, and the medical and dietetic treatment must, of course, be regulated by the nature of that condition. The increased excitement is generally the consequence of gluttony, or the abuse of vinous or spirituous liquors. The object of practice in such a case is to allay the morbid irritation of the stomach, by cooling or quieting medicines, and not to stimulate it with aromatics, or to administer bitters or astringents, (a very common practice) with the view of strengthening it. In such case, the saline mixture and purgative medicine will prove the best stomachic. In a former number we have inserted a letter from a physician, under the signature of Chiro-Medicus, in which he recom-

mends a solution of the tartaric acid and the carbonate of soda, to be taken twice a day, in a state of effervescence. The carbonic acid gas which is thus disengaged, greatly promotes its effects in allaying morbid irritation of the stomach; and the tartrate of soda, which forms, tends to keep the bowels open. This remedy, if the exciting causes be avoided, will succeed in recent cases; but if the complaint be of long standing, a more powerful medicine must be employed to allay the irritation of the nerves of the stomach, and for this purpose, we have lately found the tincture of lupulin, noticed in our last number, to answer much better than any other remedy; from twenty to thirty drops of this tincture may be taken about two hours before dinner, and two hours before supper, in a glass of water; or, in case the bowels are not sufficiently relieved, daily, in the solution of the tartaric acid and carbonate of soda, in a state of effervescence. With a view of bringing the gastric glands into a healthy state, or to remove any disposition in the walls of the stomach, and particularly in the pylorus (which generally exists in long standing or neglected cases) four grains of the blue pill should also be taken every, or every other night, for ten days or a fortnight, and repeated for this time every month, till the stomach is evidently in a healthy state. If this treatment should not succeed, in the course of a month, to restore the stomach to health, we may conclude some organic disease has taken place, to remove which, we must advance a step further; that step we have noticed in our present number, under the head of Pulmonary Consumption. When acidity prevails to the degree as to produce the sensation termed heart-burn, from ten to thirty grains of carbonate of soda may also be taken in a quarter of a pint of pure water, occasionally. Patients afflicted with, or subject to this complaint, should avoid those articles of diet which are disposed to fermentation, as sweet vegetables, sugar, pastry, preserves, and particularly articles which are in a vinous state, as malt-liquor, wines, particularly British, and bread (which is in a vinous state, its progress to the acetous being checked by baking). They should also take animal food underdone, when the nature of the meat will admit of it, and adopt the farinaceous vegetables, as potatoes, unleavened bread, &c. They should well masticate their food, for, by this process, the food is not only divided but blended with the saliva, which promotes its solution in the stomach. The best beverage during meals is pure water; but in case the patient has been accustomed to take wine or spirits freely, a small quantity of brandy may be taken with it, during or after dinner. If the patient be of a gouty or rheumatic habit, he may also take from thirty forty drops of the alcaline tincture of the colchicum seeds with each dose of the tincture of lupulin. If he be subject to head-ache, or if his nervous system be too excitable, he should also apply cold water to the head, by means of a napkin, or the shower bath every, or every other morning, and keep the feet warm by the use of flannel socks.

When the stomach is in a state of debility, or diminished excitement, an aromatic tonic medicine will be necessary, as the aromatic tincture of rhatany with the compound spirit of ammonia; and, if the bowels should be in a sluggish state, which is often the case, a *warm* purgative pill may be taken every, or every other day, to obviate costiveness, or to produce one evacuation daily; for this purpose, the aromatic pill, or a pill of rhubarb and ginger is proper. Saline medicines, in this case, generally

prove hurtful. The blue pill will also be proper, as directed above, to bring the walls of the stomach into a healthy state. If the secretion of urine be deficient, or the legs œdematous, from 20 to 30 drops of the tincture of squills may be added to each dose of the aromatic tincture of rhatany root, &c.

With the animal and vegetable food recommended above, good Port, Sherry, or Madeira wine, or brandy and water, may be taken, in the quantity only to stimulate the stomach gently, and not to influence the system, or to increase the afflux of blood to the head.

The source and treatment of the flatulence which occurs in the lower portion of the intestinal canal (the colon), we shall notice in our next number.

NERVES.—Mr. Wilson, Professor of Anatomy and Surgery to the College of Surgeons, in a lecture delivered some time since to a meeting of its members, asserted that he had satisfactorily ascertained that regeneration, or reparation of a part of the human body is independent of nervous influence. That the regeneration of removed (or diseased) parts, said he, "does not depend on the nerves, I have seen repeated proofs, in some experiments made thirty years ago by Mr. Otto. This gentleman observed the whole of the nerves going to the hinder extremity of the dog so completely, that the animal experienced no pain on the application of a red hot iron to part of the leg, even when continued so long as to burn it to the bone. Suppuration, sloughing, granulation, and cicatrization took place, and the healing of the ulcer was as perfectly and as quickly performed as in another dog, whose nerves were not observed, but to whom the hot iron had been similarly applied. In a third dog, under similar circumstances, a piece of skin, &c. of an inch square, and half an inch deep, was removed by the knife. In this dog the wound also granulated and healed; Mr. Brodie, after removing about one quarter of an inch of each of the three great nervous trunks, supplying the hinder extremity of a dog, from which the limb became benumbed and paralyzed, the wounds suppurated and healed as readily as if the nerves had been entire, and the limb and claws were as well nourished as those in the sound limb. These facts," says Mr. Wilson, "prove that the healing of wounds and nutrition, do not depend on the brain or nerves." The inference Mr. Wilson draws from the results of these experiments on nerves, &c. is not, in our opinion, correct. It has been supposed, that the healing of an ulcer, or regeneration of a part, or indeed nutrition, depend on a subtle fluid, of the nature of the galvanic, termed nervous fluid, conveyed by nerves; but if the principal nerve or nerves of a limb be divided, the fluid, no doubt, is conducted over the limb by the cellular membrane, muscles, fibres, &c. which are good conductors of it, besides the branches of the upper part of the nerve anastomose with those of the lower or divided part. Because the separated portion of the nerve is insensible, or does not convey sensation to the brain, we are not to conclude that the part below the division is not supplied with nervous fluid. It has been proved by a variety of experiments with the galvanic and electric fluids, that the nerves are better conductors of those subtle fluids than any other part of the body; but when the nerve is divided, the fluid runs off by the surrounding parts. Many combinations are formed out of the body by the electric fluid;

and therefore, we may reasonably suppose, that in the different secretions of the body the nervous fluid has great influence in effecting combinations. Mr. Wilson also contended, that the skin of a paralyzed limb is as susceptible of the action of a stimulus as the healthy one; that a blister applied to the former will rise as rapidly and as effectually as on the latter. Now, in all the cases of palsy of the lower extremities, and of one side of the body, in which we have employed blisters and stimulants, amounting to hundreds, we have *uniformly* found the skin of paralyzed parts to be much less susceptible of stimuli than than that of the healthy part of the body, and that to produce the desired effect, it is necessary to keep a blister or sinapism on a paralytic limb as long again as on the healthy limb.

GUTTA SERENA.—In the treatment of this species of blindness, Dr. Vetch is a warm advocate for the practice of blood-letting. He observes, "In cases of gutta serena, where the usual symptoms of inflammation are least of all observable, the necessity of unloading the vessels of the part, will be often most urgent; and although a few ounces of blood taken from the temples, may subdue any *outward* appearance of congestion or arterial action, which has taken place in consequence of pressure, the evacuation must be carried to the full extent of producing fainting, in order to make such an impression on the over-loaded state of the deep-seated vessels, as will enable them to recover their power of contraction. The effects of this depletion are to be assisted by the usual means of lessening the quantity of blood sent to the part." Leeches applied to the *septum nasi*, the Doctor has found more effectual than to any other part. In the treatment the Doctor also recommends purgatives, antimonial emetics, the feet warm bath, seclusion from light, cold application to the eyes, blisters and stimulating liniments to the nape of the neck and behind the ears, and mustard poultices to the feet and legs, and the re-production of any habitual discharge or cutaneous disorder; but he has expressly stated his opinions, as to the particular uses of these means.

PALSY OF THE BLADDER.—This disease, among elderly people, is very common. Forestus and other writers, recommend stimulating embrocations to the parts in the neighbourhood of the bladder, as the perinæum, the skin over the sacrum, &c. as the following:

Take of the Cajeput Liniment, one ounce and half,
Tincture of Cantharides, half an ounce.

Forestus fancied that he found castor beneficial in this disease, and in *all other palsies.*

"In palsy of the bladdder," says Dr. Cooke, "I have seen very good effects from blisters applied over the *os sacrum*, and Tincture of Cantharides taken in small doses." In a former number we have noticed a case of this disease, which was cured by a decoction of Peruvian Bark and the Tincture of Cantharides. We have found a blister applied to the perinæum, to prove a very powerful auxiliary to a tonic mixture, as the following:

Take of Foreign Extract of Rhatany root, two drachms dissolved in half a pint of water, and add
Camphorated Julep, five ounces,
Compound Spirit of Ammonia, two drachms,

Tincture of Cantharides, three drachms.—
Mix; three table spoonsful to be taken two or three times a day.

Four grains of the blue pill were also given every night for a fortnight.

COW-POX.—We have received from different parts of the country several instances of cow-pox (communicated by inoculation) having failed in affording security against small-pox contagion. To a Mr. Mitchell of Down, a father of a large family, the disease proved fatal. This person, our correspondent says, was vaccinated by Mr. Scott of Bromley, many years ago. The failures in the neighbourhood of Down and Bromley have been so numerous as to destroy all confidence of the inhabitants in vaccination as a security against small-pox. Our correspondent states, that the eruption was preceded in every instance by the most distressing affection of the head, general pains resembling acute rheumatism, and high degree of fever, owing probably, as we lately hinted, to the influence of the vaccine disease on the system. Dr. Kinglake of Taunton, in a late communication on vaccination, observes, "considering vaccine inoculation both *retrospectively* and *prospectively*, looking to its *merits* and *demerits* from *all* that has yet occurred on the subject, its *just* claims would appear to be imperative on the *intelligent* and humane advocates of that *salutary* practice, not to suffer their *well-founded* confidence to be in *any* degree shaken by the prevailing clamours and prophecies concerning its inefficacy in *lastingly* preventing the accession of small-pox. If *popular* doubts and alarms should be in any measure countenanced, or even connived at, by medical practitioners, the result will soon be *irreparably* injurious to the *just* pretensions of vaccine inoculation. Happily for the *vital* interest of mankind," continues the Doctor, "the real antivariolous power of the vaccine disease *has not yet been impugned*, IN A WAY to prove that efficient vaccination is not *always almost* invariably preventive of small-pox; and that when it does not *altogether* counteract the occurrence of that disease, it so changes its character, and so divests it of virulence, as to cause it to appear under a form too mild and tractable, in fact too slightly *varioloid*, to want any anxiety for its termination." This *scientific* dissertation concludes with the following remark: "The contributions made to the general amount of mortality, by the *destructive* ravages of small-pox, *previously* to the introduction, are truly appalling, and *should* elevate the *best* feelings of *philosophy*, in defence of a practice that either wholly *supersedes* the small-pox, or modifies that *mortiferous* disease into a comparatively *safe* and *harmless* malady."

Those who are acquainted with the learned and observant Doctor's *practical* reports of the *salutary* effects of the *topical* application of *cold* water in gout, and the *extent* of his experience in vaccination, will duly appreciate his scientific and elegantly written dissertation on the *anti-variolous* power of cow-pox. On those minds it will not operate so powerfully as to induce them to treat with contempt popular opinions, or to consider the failures which occur in their own family unworthy of notice. The observations made by Dr. Jenner, in a letter he has lately addressed to the medical profession, are entitled to more attention. So

far back as the year 1804, the Doctor pointed out the fact, that even a *single* serous patch upon the skin, existing during the progress of the vaccine vesicle, may occasion such irregularity and deviation from correctness, that may so modify the disease as to diminish its preventive powers; abrasions of the cuticle Dr. Jenner has found to produce the same effect. We know that it is very common to vaccinate infants at the time when they are affected with eruptions or inflammatory affections of the skin, and particularly the complaint termed the red gum. It is, we strongly suspect, to some morbid condition of the skin, or state of the general health, that the failure of cow-pox is solely attributable; for we cannot suppose that the human constitution can so far differ in different subjects, that it should *completely* secure one person against so powerful a contagion as that of small-pox, and leave another subject to it. "If I were asked," says Dr. Jenner, "what were the other actual impediments to *perfect* vaccination, as a *general* answer, I should reply, that I scarcely knew any other *except spurious* matter; or impediments too obvious to require my naming them, such as deranging the vaccine vesicle in its progress, by incautiously robbing it of its contents, or producing a new action by external violence." The Doctor has found the *serous* eruptions or affections of the skin, in particular, to counteract vaccination.

Dr. Muller, of Paris (late of Vienna) informs us that some cases of small-pox after vaccination have occurred in Germany; but they have been, comparatively speaking, so few, that they have not diminished the confidence of the Germans in its preventive powers. He observes, "although every person in Germany has been vaccinated, yet small-pox sometimes appears."

Mr. Sutliffe, in his Medical Sketches, volunteers some observations on vaccination. About twenty years ago, says he, I dined with Dr. Jenner, and being placed *immediately* on his *left* hand, I had a *very fair opportunity*, while the experiments were quickly succeeding each other, of *frankly* stating my fears, and, *at the same time*, of *confessing my ignorance!!* The Doctor, however, assured him, "that *at* Gloucester he could produce *him* many cases in which the vaccine virus had been received into the habit, fifty, nay seventy years ago; and from that period, the individuals have repeatedly been exposed to small-pox, and *been invulnerable.*" "This answer," says Mr. Sutliffe, "appearing to flow from the heart, *I could not call in question*, and I have, from that period, persisted in the use of vaccination with *progressive* confidence and satisfaction; and, although I have seen *four* REPEATED *failures*, I consider the cases rescued from death by previous vaccination!"

GOUT.—Dr. Veitch, of Alford, in Lincolnshire, in a short dissertation on the treatment of gout, observes, "from the *nature* of this disease, leeches are, *perhaps*, the best *local* application, and it is my usual practice, as soon as the patient begins to feel a fit of the gout coming on, and when its determination to a certain part is ascertained by the commencement of pain, immediately to apply four or five leeches near to or upon the part affected, though I have seen an attack on the knee entirely removed by the application of leeches to the foot. To the gout, the greatest attention, however, is necessary, not to apply them after inflammation has commenced in the part. The presence of pain only,

and not of inflammation, is the time when they ought to be applied; if this is not attended to, the paroxysm, in place of being diminished, will be increased. On the coutrary, by paying strict attention to this, the paroxysm will altogether be prevented, as well as its recurrence, by a timely re-application if it should be found necessary by the return of pain. Should, however, the swelling, pain, and also the inflammation have commenced so rapidly, or there has been a delay of the application, we must wait till the inflammation has somewhat subsided before we apply the leeches; after which all the good effects will follow, and the hitherto suffering patient will in half his usual time regain the use of his legs and feet. In the event of the head, heart, lungs or stomach becoming affected, general as well as topical bleeding, combined with blisters and calomel purgatives, will prove equally efficacious. I could give many cases both of old and young gouty subjects, who have found the most decided relief from this plan of treatment. In young persons, and those who have not had gout, were general and topical blood-letting, together with other antiphlogistic means, strictly adhered to, on its first commencement, they would have little cause to fear a second attack. An able and learned physician seems to have had similar ideas, when he says, " And the old gouty patient will feel many of his sufferings alleviated by the timely application of this *local* method; and when the limbs have become stiff from repeated attacks of gout, and the formation of concretions on the joints." We have received testimonies from different parts of the country, and from Germany and France, of the immediately beneficial effects of the alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds on gouty irritation and inflammation. Dr. Poullet states, that he has been cured by it in a few hours, and that he has uniformly found it to succeed as well with other gouty subjects. It has evidently a specific operation on gout. By counteracting gouty irritation, it renders bleeding unnecessary. Indeed, abstraction of blood in gout is very hazardous, and can only be justified by an evident overloaded state of the whole sanguiferous system, or of the vessels of the brain.

TOOTH-ACHE.—The following observations on the treatment of this very painful malady, appear in the last number of the Edinburgh Medical Journal.—" The treatment of this disease naturally divides itself into two parts, the removal of the present paroxysm, and the cure of the caries, which is so generally observed in the affected tooth. I am unable to propose any treatment under this latter head; my observation has been too limited for this purpose; but I would call upon those whose opportunities and abilities are equal to it, to direct their attention to the subject, as one well deserving of their investigation. For the relief of the paroxysm many remedies have been proposed, and some have been found efficacious; but it is generally observed, that what is useful to one patient is of no advantage to another. This arises, in a great degree, from indiscriminate prescription, without that steady attention to the *cause* of the affection which can alone produce successful results. When the pain arises from the irritation of an extraneous body, the indication is evident: it must be washed out, and then the pain will generally cease. Should it still continue to annoy the patient, there will be no need for extraction; an emollient, a stimulant, an opiate, applied

to the pained part, will often procure ease. Though inflammation has supervened, still extraction will not be indispensable. Inflammation, we should always recollect, is not an indeterminable affection, but may of itself subside after a longer or shorter duration. Whether it exists in the tooth or gum (and particularly if in the latter), it ought to be treated, as it is in other parts of the body,—by evacuants. Bleeding from the gum, either by leeches or by the gum-lancet, ought always to be had recourse to. Leeches are on several accounts more advisable; but from the antipathy which most people feel to their application in such a place, we must substitute the lancet. Such treatment will often give immediate relief, or, at least, it will shorten the duration of the disease, or prevent the formation of gum-boil, an affection so tedious and distressing.

"I trust I shall be excused in mentioning a form of tooth-ache, or rather a stage which it sometimes reaches, which appears perplexing, but which readily yields to the appropriate treatment. In this case, the pain continues for days or weeks without being very urgent; but at last a general indisposition supervenes, which is probably fever somewhat modified. They who have seen or felt the affection will easily recognise it, and perhaps it may be styled odontalgic erethism.

"General bleeding, purgatives, and quiet, are requisite to remove the local and constitutional symptoms. I have no intention, by these remarks, to condemn the practice of extraction. In all cases where the tooth is *loose*, where it is *permanently* painful, where a large surface is diseased, or where any peculiarity exists, the tooth ought certainly to be removed. I only contend, that extraction is much less frequently necessary than is generally thought; that it ought to be viewed as the dernier resource; and that it is not a remedy, but uniformly bears on its front an acknowledgment of the weakness of medicine."

The application of the composition noticed in a former number, under the head of Perry's Essence, we have uniformly found to succeed immediately in the cure of tooth-ache. It has the great advantage of checking (instead of promoting, like other popular remedies) the progress of carries.

WATERY HEAD.—Dr. Freckleton, of Liverpool, has published a case of this disease, in which the operation of puncturing was performed. The patient, a boy, was eight months old. At the age of two months he was attacked with convulsions, with a disordered state of the bowels. About one month afterwards the mother discovered an enlargement of the head. *The bones of the head were much separated*, and on the slightest motion of the body a fluctuation in the head was very evident to the touch. The body was much emaciated, the eyes squinted to a remarkable degree, the pupils much dilated, &c. A Mr. Hay having made a puncture with a lancet at the anterior superior angle of the left parietal bone (near the frontal bone) introduced a trocar, and drew off seven ounces and a half of serum. A steady and regular pressure was kept up during the operation; the head was then bandaged, and mercury prescribed. Something resembling the substance of the brain preceding the flow of the fluid, induced Dr. Freckleton and Mr. Hay to suppose that the fluid was contained in the ventricles. The child went on satisfactorily for eight days (during which time fluid continued to ooze out), when upwards of three ounces were again drawn

off. In about eight days more, upwards of seven ounces were taken away. After this operation the child continued to cry incessantly, and "the mother," says Dr. F. "was by an *officious* neighbour persuaded not to allow Mr. Hay to repeat *his experiments*. In the course of another month the mother got the better of her prejudices, and allowed a repetition of the operation, and sixteen ounces of a light straw-coloured fluid escaped; the result of which was, in the course of three days, a favourable opportunity of examining the interior part of the head, which presented the usual appearances." Mr. Lizars, a lecturer on anatomy and physiology in Edinburgh, has also published a case of this disease, the result of which was more favourable *to the patient*. The child (a female) was aged six months. *The bones of the head were loose, and much separated.* Mr. L. "pierced with a couching needle the anterior fontanelle in the angle, in the right side of the superior longitudinal sinus, carefully avoiding the cutaneous veins; a *tea-spoonful* of fluid only exuded!!" A purgative was then administered; about seven days afterwards he punctured the fontanelle with a "*delicate* trocar and canula," and drew off from four to five ounces of clear limpid fluid, stopping the flow in the middle for a few seconds. The child was managed during and after the operation as in the preceding case. The child was evidently relieved by this second operation; the countenance and general health improved. The purgative medicine was repeated. On the expiration of another eight days, Mr. L. drew off four ounces of fluid, and in six days, about four ounces more. The child continued to go on satisfactorily, suffering occasionally from dentition, and sometimes from convulsions. The tapping operation was occasionally repeated, and on the expiration of six weeks from the first operation, Mr. Lizars observes, "*every thing* promises success, but we appear to make little progress, in consequence of the irritation of teething."—On this case Mr. Lizars makes the following observations:

"This case illustrates several important facts. It shows us that hydrocephalus chronicus may be treated by operation, when *cautiously* managed—that the brain, the centre or origin of the nervous system, is insensible, as Wiseman formerly proved—that it is at the commencement of the deposition of fluids in the brain that irritation is induced—that when a large quantity is extravasated, provided it be gradual, the brain accommodates itself to the fluid, and no urgent symptoms occur, but only those which are the result of general pressure, as gradual paralysis. The next point to be considered, and of which this case is a strong analogical illustration,—is the propriety of operating in a similar manner in the acute hydrocephalus. I merely at present hint at it, and shall certainly reflect seriously upon it. I have been years before bringing the operation in the chronic to the test of experiment; the same time may elapse before the other be decided.

"The gentlemen who have witnessed this case, in one or more of its operations, I beg to mention, as I find many scrupulous to believe that any operation has been done. 'Truth scarce ever yet carried it by vote, any where, at its first appearance. New opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason, but because they are not already common. It is trial

and examination must give them publicity.' Dr. Duncan, jun. Professor of the Theory of Medicine; Mr. Allan, Lecturer on Surgery, and one of the Surgeons of the Royal Infirmary; Dr. Campbell, Lecturer on Midwifery; Dr. Milligan; Mr. Runciman, N. S.; Mr. Scott, N. S.; Dr. Moore; Dr. Murphy; Mr. B. Bell; Mr. Tweddale; Mr. Carnie, Surgeon, and several young gentlemen, pupils, either of Dr. Campbell or myself."

FLUOR ALBUS.—Dr. Trail of Liverpool has found the Cubebs to succeed in the cure of this disease. "In every instance," says he, "it has mitigated the violence of the complaint, and in several cases has cured the disease." The best preparation of this article is the Saturated Tincture.

CANCER.—The Editors of the Edinburgh Medical Journal consider the following suggestion, respecting the *possibility* of destroying cancer by the alternate application of intense cold and heat, with the view of destroying the vitality of the part, or producing mortification, of sufficient importance to entitle it to a place in their work.

"An expedient has suggested itself to my mind, by which I think that the application of artificial cold to a diseased part might be rendered very manageable: That is, by employing masses or plates of metal, cooled down to the requisite degree in a frigorific mixture, and then applied, for a sufficient time, to the part upon which it might be wished to induce mortification. I suppose that this effect would certainly be induced, by the application of heat, after withdrawing the cold application."

"Such metallic masses might be formed to any shape or size that might be wanted, and would have the advantage of limiting the application of the cold correctly to the surface intended."

POISONING BY LAUDANUM.—Mr. Richardson, a scientific surgeon, has published a case of a woman who had taken three or four drachms of laudanum, in which an abstraction of blood from a vein proved immediately beneficial. When he opened the vein, the patient was in a comatose state, perfectly insensible; but before "the stream of blood was stopped, she opened her eyes, and said, she felt her head very much relieved from the sense of heaviness, and the giddiness she had experienced." Mr. Richardson ordered an aperient medicine, after which she rapidly recovered her former health. Mr. Richardson, on his first visit, administered a drachm of vitriolated zinc, dissolved in water, which, after the operations of shaking, pinching, bawling in the ears, and irritating the fauces with the fingers, excited vomiting, and roused the patient. The attendants, however, allowed her to repose; the consequence of which was, she relapsed, and becoming even more comatose and insensible, he had recourse to bleeding. In an early number, we have noticed a similar case, in which bleeding was successfully employed, under the direction of Dr. Marcet.

OPIUM.—Some French physicians fancy that they have ascertained that the most active properties of opium reside in *two* substances, namely, *Narcotine* and *Morphine*. These productions, they say, produce opposite effects. The former acting powerfully on the nervous system, as an *irritant*, and the latter as a *sedative*. To separate the *narcotine* from the other parts of opium, they therefore consider a very

desirable object, and a Mr. Robiquet says it may be easily done in the following way:

"I macerate," says Mr. Robiquet, "common opium, divided into small pieces, in cold water, as it were for the aqueous extract of opium; I filter the solution, evaporate it to the consistence of a thick syrup, and treat it, in convenient vessels, with rectified ether; the whole is then shaken a great many times, before the ethereous tincture is poured off; this, being separated, is then submitted to distillation, that the ether may be drawn from it. This process is repeated as often as crystals of *narcotine* are obtained as a residue of the distillation. When the ether is without action, I evaporate the solution of opium to a consistence proper for pills; and I obtain, by this means, an extract wholly exempt from narcotine."

Dr. Magendie says he has employed this extract in practice for some time, and that he has hitherto seen only advantageous results from it, even in persons who derived no benefit from the ordinary aqueous extract.

A correspondent informs us, that he has found an addition of four or five grains of the extract of henbane to a dose of opium, to secure its sedative operation, and to prevent head ache or any other unpleasant nervous feelings. It also, he says, counteracts its constipating effects on the bowels.

SCARLET FEVER, &c.—In the Journal of Practical Medicine of Berlin, the deadly-nightshade is very much extolled as a preservative against the scarlet fever and other epidemics. This fact, which the editors say was first discovered at Leipsic, has since been confirmed by several experiments. The medicines which allay nervous irritability are, no doubt, the more likely to secure the system against the action of poisonous effluvia.

PAINFUL MENSTRUATION.—We have found the ălçaline wine of the colchicum seeds, taken in the dose of two teaspoonsful twice a day (commencing three days before the expected period) to succeed in producing easy menstruation in subjects who had not menstruated for twenty years without the most acute pain in the region of the uterus, and in some with violent spasms of the stomach. In every case we had given the vegetable anodynes and antispasmodic remedies of every kind a fair trial without any apparent advantage.

THE FAMILY CYCLOPÆDIA.—This periodical work, which we have noticed in a former number, is now finished in 12 parts. It has been said that general science is much too extensive for the human mind; that if a person who attends to it, be fundamentally acquainted with one department, he must necessarily be superficially so with another; the able manner in which this work is executed, proves this supposition to be erroneous, for every article in the Family Encyclopædia affords satisfactory evidence that the editor is thoroughly acquainted with the subject. It is a valuable *multum in parvo*. We select the following article as a fair specimen of the work:

"*Poison.*—Any substance which proves injurious or fatal to the life of animals, whether taken in small portions by the mouth, mixed with the blood, or applied to the nerves by friction of the skin, or other means. Most of the substances commonly called poisonous, are only so in certain doses: for when given in smaller quantities, many of them form active and va-

luable medicines. Others are fatal in the smallest quantities, such are those of hydrophobia, and the plague. Others are innocent when taken into the stomach, but prove deleterious when applied to the lungs, or an abraded surface. And others act as poisons, whether applied externally or internally, as arsenic.

"Poisons are sometimes only such to particular animals: thus, aloes are poisonous to dogs and wolves; the water-hemlock, or *phellandrium aquaticum*, kills horses, whilst oxen devour it greedily, and with impunity. Others again produce disease in, or destroy all animals, such are arsenic, corrosive sublimate, &c. They are also divided into mineral, vegetable, and animal poisons.

"Whenever any person is supposed to have taken poison, in order to ascertain the nature of it, the poisoned aliment, if any, should first be examined: and the patient, as well as the persons present, should also be strictly interrogated, and the symptoms carefully observed. It is also necessary to endeavour to learn the quantity of poison taken into the stomach; and whether it was given or taken in medicine, food, drink, or any other form. The time which has elapsed since the swallowing of the poison, and the efforts which have been already taken for the relief of the patient, should also be carefully inquired into. And let it never be forgotten, either by the patient himself, or by those by whom he is immediately surrounded, that firmness and *presence of mind*, in such calamitous situations, are the most likely to enable them to adopt the means necessary for relief or escape from such imminent danger. It often happens that poisons are taken, and their effects produced, before any medical attendant can be obtained; and of course the best advice will at once be had; as, however, that may, and often does, arrive too late, and as the earliest application of the antidote promises the most success, no time is to be lost, and therefore the family prescriber must, as it is his imperious duty, exert his utmost skill and attention in such an emergency.

"All the known poisons may be arranged under the five following heads:

"FIRST: *Irritating, or those which produce inflammation of the parts to which they are applied.*

"SECOND: *Narcotic or stupefactive poisons.* This class comprehends *opium*, and other preparations from *poppies*, *henbane*, *Prussic acid*, and all other substances which contain it; as the *cherry laurel*, the *oil*, *extract*, and *distilled* water of the same, the distilled oils and waters from most bitter kernels; and *bitter almonds*, the *strong-scented lettuce*, *nightshade*, the *yew*, and the *lentil*.

"THIRD: *Acrid Narcotics.*

"This class comprehends *mushrooms*, *nux vomica*, *the upas*, *false angustura*, *St. Ignatius's bean*, *camphor*, *cocculus indicus*, *tobacco*, *hemlock*, *belladonna or deadly nightshade*, *stramonium or thorn apple*, *fox glove*, *rose bay*, *manchineel*, *spirituous liquors*, *emanations from flowers*, *horned or spurred rye*.

"FOURTH: *Septic, or putrefactive poisons.*

"This class comprehends the poison of the *viper*, and all other animals, the bite or sting of which gives rise to accidents more or less se-

rious; animals that may become baneful by being taken into the stomach; malignant pustules, and canine madness, or hydrophobia.

"FIFTH: *The poisons of certain gases, when inhaled, usually producing the state called asphyxia, or apparent death.*"

Mr. Jennings, the able editor, concludes this subject with a very useful table, exhibiting the most effectual modes of counteracting the effects of the different poisons when taken into the stomach or applied to the skin.

ERRORS OF JUDGMENT, &c.—A conviction that the publication of *errors of judgment, unfortunate results of operations,* and new theories, accidents from carelessness, &c. &c. is productive of as much good to the profession and to the public as that of successful issues, has induced us to give publicity to the following cases, which, on the mind of young practitioners, will no doubt have a very good effect:—A married lady of London, being much indisposed, paid a visit to a friend at Isleworth, for "the benefit of country air." Her complaint continuing, she consulted a medical gentleman, who attributed all her symptoms to a diseased state of the liver; she was accordingly *mercurialized secundum artem.* The abdomen becoming enlarged, the lady with whom she was residing presumed to express her suspicion of pregnancy, which the patient intimated to the medical attendant. The enlargement, he positively stated, arose from effusion of serum, *in consequence of diseased structure of the liver!* To *him,* the fact was as clear as the sun at noon *day.* Tonics, with mercury, were accordingly administered. The abdomen becoming very large, the propriety of an operation was intimated; fortunately, however, for the patient, labour pains came on, (which were first termed spasmodic), and she was soon delivered of a child. The symptoms of diseased liver and of dropsy disappeared. Her bill for draughts, pills, &c. &c. amounted to nearly thirty pounds!! A young woman (about 18) living with her parents in Mortlake, suffering much from indigestion, attended with enlargement of the abdomen, applied to a medical man on the spot, of some celebrity as a *surgeon* and *accoucheur.* This gentleman, after examination, unequivocally declared, that all the symptoms arose from *pregnancy.* So certain was he of this being the fact, that he acquainted the parents with his opinion; the daughter, however, as positively declared his opinion to be erroneous. Such an *experienced* gentleman could not, in the minds of her parents, be in error. She was accordingly sent from home, and her sisters were not allowed to see her. The young woman, conscious of the rectitude of her conduct, bore the treatment of her parents with that fortitude which religion inspires. The enlargement of the bowels increased, and at length pains came on, which the surgeon, with a sapient expression of countenance, pronounced labour pains. The pains continuing many days without advancing, the experienced surgeon began to suspect that it was an extra-uterine case!! The vital powers gave way rapidly, and she discharged her debt to nature. The body was opened by two surgeons, when it appeared the enlargement of the abdomen was produced by effusion of serum!!

A man living in or near Isleworth dislocated his shoulder. The surgeon, fancying that he had reduced it, applied a plaster and a bandage. The patient continuing in "the most excruciating pain for a fortnight"

applied to a surgeon in the neighbourhood; who, on examination, found the bone in a state of dislocation!! The patient was then sent to a London hospital, where efforts were made by an apparatus of great power to return the end of the bone to its proper place, but without effect. The unfortunate man, being exhausted by pain, was put to bed, in order that he might recruit for another experiment. The following morning, before the surgeons arrived, he took the liberty to return home, where he continues in great agony.

A young gentleman, of Kentish Town, experiencing great pain in one arm, after a fall, the father supposed that some serious mischief was done to the bones or elbow joint. He accordingly sent to a leading surgeon of the City, who, after examining the arm, declared that it was only a sprain. He ordered a lotion, and continued to visit his patient daily for a week, politely taking the usual fee, with an air which indicated a conviction of its being his due. The pain, on moving the arm, continuing to be very acute, the father consulted another surgeon of less eminence, who, after a very slight examination, discovered a fractured bone!! The consulting surgeon was accordingly sent for, and by the surgeon of less eminence, was convinced of his error.

A young woman, in the neighbourhood of Clare Market, whose case had been pronounced dropsical, being attacked with acute pains in the bowels, was ordered to be put into a warm bath. During the time she was in the water, a child was born.

A married woman, residing in Wiverhoe, near Colchester, finding her abdomen to enlarge, consulted a person, who pretended to be *regularly* educated, and to have had great experience in medicine and surgery. He pronounced her case to be a species of flatulence, which he promised to cure in a few weeks. After being well drenched with draughts for many weeks, and finding her complaint to advance, she consulted another surgeon, who, after examination, declared the enlargement of the abdomen to be the consequence of pregnancy.

A few months afterwards he delivered her. The abdomen being much enlarged two months after delivery, he discovered, on further examination, that she was dropsical: he accordingly performed the operation of tapping, and drew off many quarts of serum.

DISPENSARIES.—Charitable institutions for affording medical relief to the poor afflicted with disease have of late years increased in this country to such an extent, that there is scarcely a market town without one, and the advantages which have resulted from them to poor invalids, and to the healing art, are incalculable.

About three years ago a plan for the establishment of a dispensary in Brentford was proposed by a family in the neighbourhood (whose chief pleasure seems to arise from administering to the comforts of their afflicted neighbours), and liberally seconded by all the inhabitants, who to carry it into execution vied with each other in contributing their mites. A few days since we were favoured with a copy of the annual report of this Institution, for the year ending on Lady Day, 1821, which is so highly creditable to the medical officers of the charity that we consider it entitled to notice in our Journal.

The number of patients admitted during the year (including 9 on the books), amounted to - 351

Of this number were cured or relieved -	325	
Remain *under cure* - - -	18	
Died - - - - -	8	— 351

In all the reports of hospitals we have seen, and, at one time, we were in the habit of examining the reports of all the hospitals in this kingdom, we never saw one without a specification of the number discharged incurable, or by their own requests,—the number discharged cured and relieved, is also always specified.

For the last twelve months we have attended at Brentford almost every Tuesday, to give advice to the poor gratuitously. Our only objects in undertaking this weekly excursion, are exercise, for the want of which our health had suffered, to assist a deserving medical gentleman, and to do good to the afflicted poor.

During that period we have had at least two hundred patients from this Dispensary, who told us that they left the Charity in consequence of having received no benefit from it!! We may therefore, with some propriety, ask by whom part of the number of 325 was cured; and how the medical attendants can make it appear that 325 out of 351 were discharged cured or relieved, when at least two hundred of the number left the Charity in consequence of having received *no* benefit from the medicines with which they supplied them? There is an item in the disbursements, which, to the honour of the profession be it said, we never met with in the report of a *charitable* institution, viz. 45*l.* paid to Dr. Ronalds, Messrs. Cooke and Cooper, and Mr. Oliver, *for attendance!!* The great advantage a medical man receives from an appointment to an institution of this kind is experience, and a man of science highly appreciates it; but these gentlemen, considering themselves entitled to a remuneration for their attendance, suppose their education is completed, and therefore do not require further experience. We have heard the late Dr. Fordyce and Mr. Abernethy say, that a medical education is never finished, that the experience of every day either tended to confirm their opinions, or added to their stock of practical information. The medical officers of the Brentford Dispensary are, in *their own estimation*, superior to such practitioners. The paltry sum of fifteen pounds annually from such a source, we may venture to say, has not been made on the solicitation of either Dr. Ronalds or Mr. Cooke, gentlemen of science and liberality. We hope indeed that it is a compliment paid to the others by the treasurer. This donation to all of them exceeds one fourth of the annual subscriptions. Now if that sum were distributed among those poor patients, who have not the means of procuring the necessaries of life, it would indeed be productive of much real good.

Food is a powerful auxiliary to *stomachic* medicines; indeed, good medical gentlemen of the Brentford Dispensary, your tonic medicines will fail to increase the strength of your patients, if not seconded by a nourishing diet. You have not to learn that tonic medicines strengthen the system, by enabling the stomach to digest the food it receives, and if the patient is not also supplied with aliment, the strengthening medicine will have no effect on the body. A poor patient of Brentford observed to us, "Pray don't give me any thing to produce appetite, for I have nothing to eat, and to me, nothing is more distressing than the sense of hunger."

ADVICE TO SURGEONS.—*(Continued from page 864.)*—"Nothing shews the force of habit more decidedly than the practice of your branch of the medical profession; for it is said, that surgeons are extremely fond of dissecting dead bodies, as well as operating on their living patients; and this professional partiality has its corresponding utility.

"Some part of the unrivalled excellence of Kemble may have been derived in this way. So devoted was he to acting in his early years, that he has been heard to say, that "*he would at any time get up in the middle of the night to play* Hamlet."

"A *knight* of the *black brush* was contemplating to retire from business, and on being told of the inconvenience of an idle life, replied, that "He could at any time obviate that evil by occasionally *ascending a chimney for his amusement.*"

"It would, however, be a very singular taste for a surgeon to amputate legs and arms in the same way, namely, *for occupation of time.* It is supposed, however, that the numerous accidents which daily occur will ensure quite sufficient employment for any moderate taste in this way; even the citizen's *little leaded garden,* may sometimes be useful in this respect, particularly in windy weather, when some *potted plant* is blown into the street from the *ornamented balcony* of our first floors, and fractures the skull of one of the numerous persons passing under it.

"You will, on being sent for on such an occasion, have *a good opportunity* for operating, and will immediately proceed to *trepan the patient,* let the situation and symptoms produced by so dreadful an injury be what they may*."—*(To be continued.)*

BUGS.—SIRS, Observing that you insert every species of information that is likely to prove useful to man, I am encouraged to acquaint you with an effectual method of destroying bugs, which, in this metropolis, are to be found in almost every house. It consists in brushing the parts of the bedstead and wall in which they lodge, with the rectified oil obtained from coal, sold under the name of Petroleum Oil, at about sixpence a quart. The brush should be well charged with it, that it may run into the cracks, &c. The oil is very clear. For mahogany bedsteads, it may be coloured with the alkanet root. This oil is a powerful poison to all vermin, and such is the dislike they have to its odour, that they desert the place that has been brushed over with it. Being very inflammable, it should not be applied by candle-light. I am, Sirs, your constant reader, THOS. R. JONES.

City Road, April 17th, 1821.

"* The writer accidentally happened to call in when some country surgeons were proceeding to trepan a youth, who had fallen from his horse and fractured his skull. He stopped them suddenly: "*Pray,* gentlemen, *what are you going to trepan for?*" "There is a fracture of the skull," was the answer. "*True, but I perceive there are no symptoms of depression, nor of any injury of the brain; and you will give the patient less chance of recovery than he has at present; for, if you do trepan, you add injury to injury.*" They consented to desist, and the patient soon got well. What would have been the result had the trephine been used, is another affair!"

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 66. To JUNE 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

TIC DOULOUREUX.

DR. CARTER, Physician to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, has lately published the following case of tic douloureux, which was cured by the carbonate of iron, as directed by Surgeon Hutchinson.

"Thomas Wanstall, aged fifty-eight, a person who had, till within the last few years, led an intemperate life, was admitted an out-patient of the General Kent and Canterbury Hospital, December 22, 1820. He stated, that about the middle of October last he was seized by a most violent pain, commencing at the upper jaw, and extending in a short time over the whole of the left side of the face to the temple. Conceiving that his malady was nothing more than toothach, he had one of the grinders extracted; which was extremely decayed; but the removal of which gave him no relief. A second tooth was drawn, which proved to be sound; and subsequently a third, of the lower jaw; still the pain continued as severe as ever. He was never quite free from it; but several times a day he had a paroxysm so violent as to make him roll about upon his bed, and to incapacitate him from giving any description of his sufferings. At night he got no rest, owing to the pain and the beating at the temples, which, to use his own expression, *was exactly like the ticking of a watch.* Several blisters had been applied, lotions had been used, and various medicines had been taken, but nothing had appeared to afford him the least relief, excepting opium, the good effect of which was transient.

"When the man presented himself at the hospital, he was suffering severely. His head was wrapped up, for he could not endure the least air to blow upon the affected parts. He was in a state of general debility; pulse feeble; tongue foul; bowels costive, probably owing to the opium which he had taken. I prescribed decoction of bark, with ammoniated tincture of guaiacum, every three hours, and ten grains of Dover's powder at night, and a laxative to be taken as soon as possible.

"This plan was persisted in for three weeks, with evident advantage to the patient's general health, but without the pain of the face being in the least degree mitigated.

"On the 13th of January he began taking a scruple of the carbonate of iron, every three hours, made into an electuary, with confectio aromat. and syrup.

"26th.—Had been quite free from pain for four days. His appearance was much improved, and he complained of nothing but numbness of the side of the face.

"February 3d.—No recurrence of pain. Iron discontinued. Ordered to take decoction of bark, with the tincture, spirit of lavender, and aromatic confection, thrice a day.

"8th.—Numbness nearly gone. No return of pain. He remained perfectly well."

Mr. Robinson, a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, in London, has found the Peruvian bark to succeed in curing a well marked case of this disease, which had resisted the common routine practice of anodyne liniments and plasters, bleeding by leeches, extraction of teeth, the internal use of opium, tincture of castor, &c. Two ounces of powdered Peruvian bark were divided into twenty-four equal parts, one of which was exhibited *every hour*, in a little milk, and a cordial draught every three hours. The patient persisted in the use of the Peruvian bark regularly, for nine successive days, after which she had not the slightest return of the disease.

The leading physicians of the continent speak highly of the beneficial effects of the carbonate of iron in this disease. Although it has been very generally employed in this country, we have not heard of a case in which it has failed, either to cure the disease, or to afford very considerable relief.

Mr. Hutchinson, we understand, will soon publish a new edition of his valuable Treatise on Tic Douloureux, with a considerable addition of cases, to illustrate the benefit of his mode of treatment.

RHEUMATISM, &c.—Dr. Uwins has published the following case of Rheumatism, cured by the wine of the colchicum seeds, under the direction of Mr. Burgess.—David Cotter, aged 41, a labourer, living at No. 3, Star Court, complained of having most severe pains in his head, neck, shoulders, and elbows, which deprived him of sleep, and confined him to his chamber. Mr. Burgess saw him on the 20th of March, and ordered him to take a drachm of the colchicum seed wine, two or three times a day. A few days after, the patient called on Mr. Burgess, and told him that he was well enough to sell fruit in the street. A liniment was also applied to the part. Dr. Uwins adds, "another practitioner writes word that he is about to transmit some cases of rheumatism, proving the efficacy of the colchicum seeds.—Mr. Shearman, a respectable surgeon, of Tibshelf, in Derbyshire, observes, "after having read the observations of Dr. Williams respecting the efficacy of the seeds of the colchicum, I was induced to try the remedy in a few cases under my care, and I feel pleasure in saying, that I have not been disappointed." He adds two cases of chronic rheumatism, in which it succeeded in removing the disease, and in establishing health.

Some physicians of London prescribe the root in preference to the seeds, because it acts more powerfully on the stomach and bowels.—The root uniformly reduces the vital powers, and in some cases of rheumatism and gout, attended with general debility, it has proved very injurious. The seeds, on the contrary, seem to act specifically on the disease, and at the same time, to improve the general health; and its effects in allaying pain and removing the cause of the disease, do not depend on its irritating the stomach or bowels, or exciting purging. A Dr. Scudamore, who has endeavoured to induce the public to suppose that he is better acquainted with the nature and treatment of rheumatism and gout, than any other practitioner, by making a voluminous book on the subject, recommends the *extract* of the root. If he were acquainted with pharmaceutical chemistry, he would know that the medicinal virtues of roots, are injured by the long boiling, necessary to re-

duce the decoction to an extract. When the small quantity of three grains of a powdered root is a sufficient dose, it is ridiculous to make an extract from it, which cannot possess any superior advantage over the powder, but is in many respects very inferior.

A man whose practice depends on advertising a book, must occasionally have recourse to novelty of some kind or another, to keep his name alive in the public mind; and some of this respectable class of physicians, and we are sorry to say, surgeons, recommend their patients to a *particular* chemist for their preparations, who charges the medicines at a most extravagant price, in order to enable him to make his worthy patrons the stipulated allowance, for their *kind* recommendation. This system of quackery is, at this time, carried on in this metropolis to such a disgraceful extent, that we are collecting facts, for the purpose of exposing the shameful traffic, and the names of those who are engaged in it. When the most eminent physicians in Germany and France think themselves handsomely remunerated for a visit, by a fee of five francs, (4*s*. 2*d*.) is not the conduct of the physician or surgeon extremely mean, if not dishonest, who contracts with a druggist for an allowance of a shilling on every box of pills, and sixpence on every draught, which he compounds from the prescription he recommends to him, after receiving from the patient one guinea for his advice? Prussic acid, infusion of senna, syrup of sarsaparilla, extract of stramonium seeds, guttæ nostræ, pilul. nostræ, &c. have proved very beneficial to some physicians and surgeons. The composition of guttæ nostræ, et pilulæ nostræ are only known to the *master* of the shop!!

CROUP.—Professor Chapman of Pennsylvania, in a communication on the pathology and treatment of this disease, states, that simple as his mode of managing it is, he always approaches it, *in the early stage*, with a greater certainty of curing it, than any of the other complaints of infancy or of childhood. "Called in on the *commencement* of the attack," says the professor, "I endeavour to vomit the child very freely, by a solution of emetic tartar, given at short intervals, being more certain and powerful in its operation than any other article. At the same time I order the child to be put into the warm bath for ten or fifteen minutes. This remedy proves very useful, by promoting the operation of the emetic, and equalizing the circulation. If the emetic does not operate, or if after the operation, the desired effect be not realized, I bleed copiously, and repeat it, and also the warm bath. An attack must be extremely obstinate, if it does not yield to this treatment. Nevertheless, it sometimes continues with little or no abatement, when abstraction of blood by leeches or cupping will be necessary. The cups should be applied to the sides or back of the neck, for when placed on the front, they will by pressure or suction greatly impede respiration, and sometimes threaten suffocation. Twice I have seen the effects of this practice so violent, that I believe death would have ensued, had not the cups been removed. As means of local bleeding, leeches are far preferable to any other. Next I put a mustard poultice or blister over the throat, or in some instances these may precede them. The foregoing treatment failing, or where the symptoms become so alarmingly violent as to demand immediate relief, I bleed till the patient faints. When the loss of blood is carried to this extent, I may almost say that

bleeding is invariably successful, as I have never known one instance in which it failed. Immediately on recovery from fainting, the cough, &c. terminate, and respiration becomes free and easy." This mode of treating croup was strongly recommended by us about two years ago; the professor however states that he received information of it from a Dr. Dick of Alexandria, whom he represents to be one of the most bold and successful practitioners in his country. *Small* and *repeated* bleeding, recommended by some eminent practitioners, the professor declares to be an abuse of a very important remedy. On the first attack of inflammation of a *vital* part, the abstraction of blood should unquestionably be sufficiently copious to produce a decisive effect; indeed the object of bleeding is to unload the vessels of the part so completely, as to convert the inflammatory affection into a mere irritative one, that may be cured by an anodyne and a derivating treatment, as blistering, purging, warm bath, &c. A practitioner has lately published a case of irritative inflammation of the lungs, which was after some weeks subdued by *repeated* bleeding. This patient lost in the course of a few weeks a quantity of blood equal to the third of the weight of her body. Had she been copiously bled on the first attack, the disease might have terminated in as many days as it continued weeks. This case shews the power of sanguification, even when a person is kept on a spare vegetable diet, and under the influence of debilitating medicines.

BLISTERS.—Dr. Gregory of London, having, in the course of the last winter, had occasion to observe several instances in which the application of blisters to *infants and very young children*, was attended with much inconvenience, and even danger, has published the following observations, which he hopes will prove of some service, particularly to the junior members of the profession.

"The *frequency* of *acute* inflammatory affections in infants has been long acknowledged, while at the same time it has been a matter of general observation and regret, that the smallness of the veins of the arm at an early period of life, precludes us, in a large proportion of cases, from our most powerful means of subduing that formidable state of disease. Practitioners have therefore had recourse to different substitutes for general blood-letting. Leeches, cupping, foxglove, and tartarized antimony, are those most frequently resorted to; but the employment of blisters is, at least, equally general. That blisters are possessed of very decided power in subduing inflammatory diseases of children; and that they are frequently, nay, most commonly applied without producing any local or general inconvenience, must, I think, be admitted. It is equally important, however, to be aware, that in many instances they have occasioned unpleasant symptoms; and my object in the present communication is to point out what these are, in what description of cases they are most likely to occur, and by what means they may be best prevented, or, if occurring, removed. These remarks bear no relation to the questions which have so often been agitated, to what extent, and in what manner, blisters prove useful in inflammatory disease? It is generally admitted, that they are chiefly serviceable in the *latter* stages of the complaint, and after the violence of the symptoms has been subdued by other and more appropriate means. It has therefore been argued by some, that they are applied only when the disease

itself is yielding; and that they might, consequently, be dispensed with without injury to the patient. I have little doubt that this view of the question is, in many instances, perfectly correct; and though I believe it to be inapplicable as a general rule of practice, yet it surely illustrates the position which I would wish to enforce, that the indiscriminate employment of blisters in the diseases of children, upon the mere ground of the presence of inflammatory action, is improper; and that their application is not on a par with the injunction of low diet, or a laxative, or a pediluvium; but that it must, in each case, be as maturely weighed as the propriety of venesection, leeches, or cupping."

"In the first place, then," proceeds the Doctor, "I would remark, that the application of a blister to the skin of infants and young children, is often followed by a high degree of inflammation, spreading considerably beyond the surface occupied by the plaster. So high, indeed, will the inflammation run in some instances, that sloughing and gangrene of the parts follow; and this is the first way in which I have seen blisters prove fatal. The skin at this age is very tender and irritable, and loaded with blood vessels; and this would of itself be sufficient to account for the fact; but it is probably dependent also on some *peculiarity of constitution.*"

"Even if the blister on its first application, does not produce that high degree of local irritation, which is here supposed, it will occasionally be found that much inconvenience attends it in its subsequent stages. The blister refuses to heal under any system of management: a copious discharge of purulent matter at length takes place from it. In some places ulceration eats deeply into the substance of the true skin. At other times fungous granulations shoot out from the surface of the sore. When this state of things has continued for any length of time (a fortnight for instance, or three weeks) the constitution begins to suffer; the pulse becomes quick; the tongue dry; there is marasmus and restlessness; and in bad cases, convulsions, which terminate fatally. Here it appears as if the long continued discharge was the *direct* cause of the mischief. I am fully aware that a discharge to at least an equal extent and for a much longer time, is generally kept up by surgeons, with a view of combating local disease in a joint, and that similar symptoms are not found to occur, so as to deter them from practice in these cases.

"I am unable to reconcile this apparent contradiction, unless by supposing that it is chiefly in feverish and inflammatory states of the system, where the skin is hot and dry, that these unpleasant effects are likely to be experienced. Several circumstances, however, induce me to think that such a supposition is not altogether gratuitous. In all the worst cases of the kind, which have fallen under my notice, such a state of symptom did really exist; but at the same time, I am by no means confident that in a purely chronic disease, or even in a healthy state of body, similar symptoms might not be expected.

"That in a large proportion of cases, they are the result of neglect or mismanagement, I am perfectly ready," says the Doctor, "to admit, and consequently that they may be prevented or obviated; but I am inclined also to believe that *occasionally* they will occur, notwithstanding all the care of the practitioner. The necessity of attention on his part is in either case equally apparent; and I would strongly urge the propriety of

by occasionally examining the state of blistered surface in every case, and not trusting the dressing of it to the nurse, as is too frequently practised.

"The manner of obviating the bad effects of blisters in young children, may be thus briefly stated. They should, in the first place, never be applied when the symptoms are sufficiently urgent to demand the evacuation of blood. Bleeding from the arm, or if that is impossible, the application of cupping glasses or leeches should never be omitted, under the hope that the application of a blister will supersede their necessity.

"I cannot lose this opportunity of expressing my persuasion of the great utility of a small bleeding in those feverish attacks of children, which, if neglected or checked only by slighter measures, frequently terminate in effusions on the brain. A timely bleeding then, will often preclude the necessity of having recourse to a blister; and I think I have said enough to show that much more inconvenience, and fully as much danger, results from the application of a blister, as from the puncture of a lancet or the bites of leeches. If a blister is, after all, considered to be indispensable, as I well know it will be found to be in many cases, the bad effects I have described may often be prevented by applying it of moderate size, and allowing it to remain on for only a moderate space of time. This will vary in different children. Frequently the blister may be taken off at the end of five hours, but it should seldom or never be continued on for more than ten. Attention should also be paid to the healing of the blister. If mild applications are found ineffectual, they should be changed for cooling lotions, or what answers better in most cases, adhesive plaster. Dry powders appear to me to be improper. Where the granulations are superabundant, the surface should be touched with lunar caustic, which is certainly preferable to blue stone. The pimples that frequently form around the blistered surface during the process of healing, require also a share of attention; for want of which, I have frequently seen them degenerate into ulcers, and occasion a degree of irritation not inferior to that of the blister itself."

The skin of an infant or young child is so very irritable, that we never allow a blistering plaster to remain on it longer than *two* hours, (on an adult four hours are sufficient.) In that time a degree of inflammation is excited sufficient to produce a blister in a few hours, with a dressing of spermaceti ointment. The ulceration and disturbance of the nervous system, which follow a blister, are occasioned by continuing the blister on the part some time after the cuticle has broken; the consequence of which is, so much irritation is excited in the true skin (cutis), and in the cellular membrane under it, as to destroy their vitality, and a troublesome sloughing will ensue, particularly, as the Doctor observes, when the fever runs high, and the skin is hot and dry. The occurrence of fatal convulsions is not the consequence of excessive discharge from the ulcerated surface, but of the irritative effects of the ulcer and surrounding inflammation on the nervous system. The discharge is never so copious as to occasion a dangerous degree of debility even in an infant, and in our opinion it is more likely to prevent convulsions than to produce them. As to the granulations, they generally give way to dry lint with an over-dressing of spermaceti ointment, spread on lint. If they should be very exuberant, an astringent powder, as rhubarb, or Peruvian, or

oak bark, is preferable to lunar caustic or the blue stone, on account of not producing pain, which, in a very nervous infant or child, might bring on convulsions.

Blisters and other irritants applied to the skin, in cases of internal inflammation, never prove beneficial until the system of blood vessels have been sufficiently unloaded. When the disease is thus rendered more an irritative than inflammatory, the inflammation excited on the skin by a blister, or a powerful irritant, as the strong water of ammonia, never fails to prove very beneficial, on the principle of derivation. When the blood vessels are not previously unloaded by bleeding, blisters and irritants often aggravate the mischief by increasing the fever or temperature of the body. This effect in children, and during the first stage of pulmonary consumption, we have often witnessed.

FLATULENCE.—(*Continued from page* 923.)—The air which collects in the lower portion of the intestines, particularly the colon, is carburetted hydrogen. It does not appear to be, like the flatus of the stomach, the consequence of indigestion, for it is very frequently unattended with any symptom of debility or morbid excitement of the stomach. Nervous subjects, particularly gouty ones, are very subject to an accumulation of this gas, and so far from its being a disease, they are never better than when it takes place and passes off freely, and when it is not produced they are generally much indisposed, with pain in the head and general nervous irritation. With them, the occurrence of this flatus is a certain indication of approaching convalescence, under a variety of nervous diseases, particularly gout, rheumatism, nervous fever, head-ache, &c. We are not aware that any writer has noticed the evolution or secretion of this gas, in the human intestines, and the source of it is at present involved in some obscurity. It is never found in the stomach, duodenum, or small intestines, but always more or less in the colon, where the fæces undergo a change. The office of this portion of the intestinal canal, is, probably, as we have observed in an early number, to separate feculent matter from the blood, for we find that there is a very considerable secretion from its internal coat, which gives the contents the fæcal characters. The colour of the fæces as much depends on this part performing its office, as on the secretion of the liver, the dark or blackish colour of the fæces being derived from it, and not from morbid bile, as many writers suppose. The carburetted hydrogen gas may be the consequence of the formation of fæces; but from the quieting effects of its free expulsion on the nervous system, we are inclined to suspect, that it is either discharged from the nervous system, or from the blood into the colon. Those who indulge in the free use of vinous and spirituous liquors, and particularly in strong malt liquors, are very subject to this species of flatulence; but as the gas is never found in the stomach, duodenum, or small intestines, it is evidently not immediately extricated from them.

The air from the lungs of inebriates is strongly impregnated with this gas. Venous blood also contains it, as well as carbon, and as both pass off by the lungs, we may ask, is this gas, like the carbon, the product of that process of calorification in the body, or what we have termed animal ignition, to maintain its natural temperature? It is worthy of notice,

that when the temperature of the body is kept up by immersion in water heated to the degree of 98 or 100, (blood-heat), neither hydrogen nor carbonic acid escapes from the lungs, and the blood taken from a vein has the appearance of that of an artery. The production of carburetted hydrogen is therefore not a disease, but a secretion necessary in some nervous or gouty subjects, to keep the system healthy, or to quiet the brain and nerves. In such habits, the object of practice, under certain circumstances, is rather to increase than check it, and assuredly, when the system becomes irritable or feverish, to promote it. The remedy we have found most beneficial in this respect, is the composition we have noticed in an early Number, under the head of the Bengal Antibilious Pills, and it was on this account chiefly that we recommended the remedy to gouty, or what are termed bilious subjects, for they not only act on the liver, but promote the secretion of the colon. A stimulating lavement, as solution of aloes, or Epsom salts, in thin gruel, is also very efficacious. People, however, subject to this gas should, by abstemious regimen, and particularly by avoiding an excess of vinous and spirituous liquors, render the secretion of the gas unnecessary.

IODINE.—Dr. Proudet, of Germany, informs us that he has administered this article in cases of wen, with the most decided advantage. We have now under our care four cases of wen, in which the tincture of iodine has proved very beneficial. The tumours, after a trial of three weeks, have diminished more than one half, and from their soft state, we have no doubt of its succeeding in dispersing them. The results of numerous trials in cases of scrofula, have satisfied our minds that it does possess antiscrofulous properties. In one case of scrofulous inflammation of the left eye, attended with opacity of the cornea, and thickening of the conjunctive tunic, it completely succeeded in subduing the inflammation, and removing the opacity in three weeks. Scrofulous ulcers, after the internal use of the tincture, for a week or two, lose their character, exhibit a healthy appearance, and heal kindly. In scrofulous enlargement of glands, it has also succeeded. In the latter cases, as well as in wens, we have also employed bleeding, as directed in our last number, for organic diseases of the lungs, &c. The dose of tincture of iodine is from fifteen to thirty drops. The vehicle we have employed for its exhibition, is the decoction of marshmallow root.

SCALD HEAD.—A respectable physician informs us, that he has found the application of the following ointment to the parts affected, every night and morning, after shaving the scalp, to succeed in the most obstinate cases of this disease:—

Take of acetate of copper, very finely powdered, two scruples;
Spermaceti cerate, one ounce.—To be well mixed together.

He also directed the bowels to be well evacuated twice a day with the basilic powder.

ITCH.—We have met with several cases of this disease, that had resisted the long application of sulphur ointment, and other remedies, which yielded in a few days to the solution of the sulphuret of potass in water (a drachm to a pint), as recommended by Sir Arthur Clarke, of Dublin. The parts affected were well washed with it, by means of flannel, every night and morning.

INFLAMMATION OF THE LARYNX.—The Association of the Members of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians of Ireland has published the following case of this disease, in which an opening into the windpipe was made with success, by Mr. Carmichael, an eminent surgeon of Dublin:

"Judith Mahony, æt. 30, of a robust habit and sanguine temperament, was admitted into the Whitworth Hospital on the evening of the 8th of May, affected with a dull pain in the region of the larynx, and a sensation of constriction about the epiglottis, which greatly impeded respiration.

"Each inspiration was lengthened, stridulous and sonorous, performed with great effort, and attended with a convulsive elevation of the chin. *Expiration was performed with ease.* The voice was hoarse, and speaking was observed to aggravate the difficulty of breathing. She had little cough, but was frequently hawking up a tough, yellowish mucus. Swallowing was little impeded, but attended with some pain. Externally there was no observable tumour, *nor did pressure upon the region of the larynx occasion pain.* Upon examining the internal fauces, the mucous membrane appeared slightly inflamed. The right tonsil was enlarged, and the uvula, which appeared rigid, had its tip *looking* forwards, and placed at right angles with the velum. The tongue was slightly furred, and upon making pressure on its root with the shaft of a spoon, in order to obtain a more complete view of the mouth and fauces, the patient twice remarked, that she felt her breathing relieved, owing, no doubt, to an increase in the area of the glottis during the pressure. The pulse was about 108 in the minute, and rather contracted. The bowels had been freed by medicine.

"The account which the patient gave of herself was, that about six days previous to her admission, after leaving off a cap which she had been in the habit of wearing, she was seized with pains in *both* ears, which were soon followed by the symptoms of inflammation of the larynx.

"With a view to clear the bronchial tubes of the mucus and phlegm with which they seemed to be oppressed, Dr. Cuming ordered an emetic, consisting of 20 grains of ipecacuanha and 1 of tartar emetic, which was immediately administered, and 1 ounce of the following solution was directed to be taken every fourth hour:

Take of Camphorated Mixture 6 ounces,
Emetic Tartar 1 grain. Mix.

"The emetic operated well, and produced a considerable discharge of mucus; but she passed a sleepless night; the difficulty of breathing was by no means alleviated, and she was, for the most part, obliged to sit erect in bed, from an impending sense of suffocation."

"On the morning of the 9th, twelve leeches were applied to the external fauces; these, however, failing to produce any decided benefit, fourteen more were immediately laid on, and the quantity of blood drawn was considerable. No impression, however, seemed as yet to be made on the disease; the inspirations became more and more sonorous and convulsive; the countenance was expressive of the greatest distress; and the patient, in the agony of her suffering, was most earnestly imploring the attendants to do something that might afford her relief.

"A bolus, containing *five* grains of calomel and one-third of a grain of

opium was now administered, and directed to be repeated every third hour. A blister was also ordered for the throat, but its application was for some time deferred, in order that, if the symptoms should become more urgent, it might not interfere with the operation of tracheotomy, which was in contemplation.

"About half-past five o'clock in the afternoon, as the distress still continued unabated, and the danger of suffocation became every minute more imminent, Mr. Carmichael was called upon, who instantly proceeded to perform the operation. An opening was made into the windpipe, in that space which intervenes between the inferior edge of the thyroid gland, and the superior extremity of the breast-bone. During the performance of the operation, the quantity of blood lost was very inconsiderable *.

"As soon as the windpipe was perforated, the air rushed out with a peculiar hissing noise, and upon enlarging the opening from above, downwards, and cutting out a small portion of the cartilage, the change which took place in all the symptoms was as beneficial as it was immediate. The countenance, which before the operation was of a pallid hue, and expressive of the utmost anxiety, suddenly resumed its natural appearance; and inspiration, which had been previously attended with so much difficulty, was now performed with apparent ease through the artificial opening. That convulsive elongation of the windpipe, which

---

"* The external incision was about an inch and a half in length, and the hæmorrhage was so inconsiderable that there was not more than half an ounce of blood lost during the operation; for owing to the steadiness of the patient, and a clear light, the large veins on the fore part of the trachea were distinctly seen and avoided. The incision into the trachea was first made by dividing the membranous substance between two of the rings; then the inferior of the two was divided by a perpendicular incision, and this opening was enlarged by laying hold of one edge of the divided ring with a forceps, drawing it forwards, and cutting off a slice with the knife. A similar piece being removed from the other edge of the divided ring, a square opening was left sufficiently large not only for the easy passage of air, but of mucus—a circumstance of the greatest moment with respect to the success of the operation; for if the opening should not be large enough to admit of the expulsion of mucus, a recurrence of a state of suffocation must ensue from its accumulation in the trachea and larynx, as there is little chance of its being expelled by the glottis, now that the patient breathes through the wound in the trachea. The removal of a piece of one or two of the rings, as recommended by Mr. Lawrence, is therefore, in my opinion, far preferable to the introduction of a canula, for the latter is not only a source of great distress, but is by no means equal to the other for admitting the easy exit of mucus. If we are contented with merely dividing the membranous substance which connects the rings, recourse must be had to the canula, as the opening will soon become clogged with mucus in spite of all the efforts of the patient to expel it; and, for obvious reasons, we should prefer a canula of as large a diameter as can be introduced."

before attended each inspiration, was now completely removed; and the pulse, which had previously been about 108 in the minute, fell to 90. The patient, though now incapable of speaking, sufficiently evinced by signs how much she was relieved.

"On being replaced in bed, and propped up in the erect position with pillows, she soon fell asleep, and continued dozing during the remainder of the evening. On awaking, it was found that she swallowed with ease, and having signified a desire to smoke tobacco, she was gratified with a pipe. The edges of the external wound were kept separate by *tin* retractors covered by adhesive plasters, which were connected to each other by two strings tied behind the neck. A canula had been introduced into the aperture in the trachea, but the excessive irritation which it occasioned rendered its immediate removal necessary. At bed-time she had a draught, containing twenty drops of laudanum; and the calomel boluses, of which she had only taken one, were ordered to be discontinued.

"During the night she slept well, and breathed with tolerable ease. At four o'clock of the morning of the 10th, she rejected a considerable quantity of mucus, mixed with coagula of blood, from the mouth. At breakfast-time she took two cups of tea, and a little bread with appetite; and she continued pretty well till about 12 o'clock at noon, when, in consequence of the accumulated mucus, which obstructed the aperture in the trachea, the breathing became again laboured, and attended with somewhat of the same convulsive-like inspiration and peculiar hooping sound, which existed before the operation. The voice had, to a certain extent, returned, and she was able at times to articulate distinctly.

"A probe wrapped round with lint was introduced into the aperture, by which the mucus was from time to time removed, and the external wound was kept clean by sponging. The difficulty of breathing, however, continually recurred, and the efforts to expectorate by the mouth were frequent and ineffectual. A considerable quantity of mucus escaped through the opening in the trachea, and it was observed, that when the opening was completely obstructed by the sponge, the patient was occasionally able to get up some mucus, and reject it by the mouth.

"The difficulty of breathing continuing to increase, a bistoury was introduced in the evening, by which the opening was enlarged upwards. The good effects of this enlargement became soon evident, for the patient lay down on her side for the first time since the performance of the operation, and slept soundly for two hours. Respiration, during this time, was performed with apparent ease, through the aperture in the windpipe. Throughout the day she took a little beef tea and bread. The pulse was about 96, and she had three evacuations from the bowels without medicine. She passed a tolerable night; breathing pretty freely, except when the aperture in the trachea became obstructed with mucus, which the nurse had particular directions to remove. She suffered considerable uneasiness, however, from a slight dysenteric affection which occurred in the night, and for which a draught, containing half an ounce of castor oil and twenty drops of laudanum, was administered on the morning of the 11th. The affection of the bowels was probably owing

to the calomel which had been taken in a single bolus, as there was a strong mercurial fœtor from the breath; and she complained of slight uneasiness of the mouth.

"About 11 o'clock at night she complained of weakness, and there was evident sinking of the pulse. A small quantity of wine, therefore, diluted with an equal proportion of water, was directed to be taken occasionally; and having fallen asleep soon after, it was observed, that she had drawn the blanket over her face, which evidently proved, that the obstruction to the passage of air, must have, in a great degree, subsided. She slept well throughout the night, but towards morning, in consequence of one of the tin retractors, by which the edges of the external wound were kept separate, having fallen out, the breathing became again a little impeded, and she expressed a desire that it might be replaced: this was accordingly done.

"At 9 o'clock on the morning of the 12th, she was sitting up in bed, and breathing very freely through both apertures. Her countenance was perfectly composed, and not at all expressive of anxiety. She thought she could breathe with more ease through the natural passage, and entertained strong hopes of recovery. Her voice continued still croaking, but she could articulate distinctly; pulse about 90, and of tolerable strength; dysenteric affection gone. She was allowed chicken broth, and a small quantity of wine, which she took with some degree of appetite. Her deglutition was scarcely, if at all, impeded.

"Throughout this day and the following night she breathed with still more freedom, and could bend the head so far forward as to obstruct, in a considerable degree, the aperture in the trachea. The use of the retractors to keep the edges of the wound separate was now no longer necessary, as apparently but a scanty supply of air through the artificial opening was sufficient for respiration.

"On the 13th the edges of the external wound had considerably contracted, and part of it appeared filled up by the deposition of coagulable lymph. There was still sufficient space for the free ingress and egress of air; but respiration seemed now to be principally performed through the larynx. The patient could lie in any position with the greatest ease, and when sleeping she could bear the bed-clothes to be drawn up about her throat without inconvenience. The excretion of mucus through the artificial aperture, as well as through the mouth, had in a great degree subsided. From this period her amendment was progressive and decided, for on the 19th it was noted, that the passage of air, as well as mucus, through the artificial opening had entirely ceased; and the external wound, which was rapidly contracting, was perfectly healed on the 23d. She was, however, retained in the hospital until the 31st, in order that she might recruit her strength, on which day she was discharged well."

Had this patient been copiously bled, a blister applied over the throat, the inflamed tonsil and surrounding membrane scarified, and the customary purgative and sudorific saline medicines administered *on the first attack of the disease, or when Dr. Cuming first saw her*, would not the necessity of so formidable an operation have been prevented? Such a decisive mode of treatment should, in our opinion, have preceded the exhibition of an emetic, the object of which, Dr. Cuming admits, was to remove the *effects* of the disease!! The postponement of the applica-

tion of a blister, that it should not interfere with the operation of tracheotomy, in case it should be deemed advisable, was indeed, to say the best of it, a *considerate* practice. Now might not the application of a blister have rendered the operation unnecessary? This is one of the acute diseases in which a decisive practice is necessary to save the life of the patient, or to prevent the necessity of an operation, to which many patients would prefer death. It is the indecisive, or what a physician of Vienna has termed it, *play*-practice of the physicians of France, that gives rise to so many operations in that country. The result of this case points out forcibly the necessity of physicians being well acquainted with surgery, for such practitioners uniformly proportion their remedies to the danger of diseases. In Dublin physicians are not allowed to interfere with surgery, and if a surgeon should practise pharmacy, he is deemed unworthy of being a member of the college!!! Hence in Dublin, a patient with an organic disease, to derive the advantage the healing art is capable of affording, must employ a physician, a surgeon, and an apothecary!!! This the medical tribe of that city consider a wise and a very *politic* regulation, thereby admitting that their brains or mental capacities are not equal to the study of every department of medicine.

Mr. Carmichael concludes his paper with the following observations: "This case affords a strong illustration of the advantages of having recourse to the operation (tracheotomy) in the early stages of croup and inflammation of the larynx (laryngitis) before the wind-pipe or larynx becomes coated with coagulable lymph, or effusion has taken place in the lungs, principles already sufficiently insisted upon in the writings of Dr. Farre and Messrs. Chevalier and Lawrence."

With respect to the size of the opening and the removal of a piece of one, two, or three of the rings, as recommended by Mr. Lawrence, much must depend on the *object* of the operation. If organic disease about the glottis, which is likely to advance, and will not admit of cure, renders the operation necessary, a portion of two or three of the segments of the rings and integuments should be removed, because the opening is to be *permanent*, but in cases of inflammation of the larynx and croup, the integuments should be preserved, and as little of the segments of the cartilaginous hoops should be removed, as will answer the purpose. In croup the division of the internal membrane of the windpipe, no doubt, contributes greatly towards the resolution of the inflammation.

It should be remembered that the opening is intended to relieve the glottis, or act as an auxiliary to it, and to be closed when the disease has terminated.

LIVER COUGH.—Dr. William Brooke, treasurer and reader to the Association of Physicians of Dublin, has met with a case of cough, which has satisfied his mind that there is such a disease as *liver cough*. The patient (a youth of about fifteen years of age) having, after a long walk, experienced a return of "his *old* cough," Dr. Brooke "was sent for;" "on the most *minute* and *patient* examination, he was unable to detect the *smallest* deviation from health, or the smallest derangement in any of the organs or their functions, save the cough alone." After a deep inspiration, "he *uttered* a *short cough* or *ejaculation*,

sounding (says the Doctor) somewhat like haghss, in an extremely harsh, loud, and disagreeable tone"!! "To *gain time for reflection*, as well as for observing the *course* of this liver cough, and supposing it possible that *some suppression* of the cuticular discharge had been produced during his long walk, I ordered him to remain in bed, and to take a *mild* saline sudorific mixture, and to have his *legs* and feet well *stuped* for an hour"!! Two days after this *judicious* treatment he was no better. The bowels being confined, the *patient* expressed a wish to take some *active physic;* the learned Doctor accordingly did order him some active physic, viz. "calomel, James'spowder, and a saline purging draught." These medicines produced several very offensive bilious stools. Two days afterwards he complained of a pain in the *right* side, an indication to the seat of the disease. The learned Doctor "*made him stand up* and *lean forward over* the back of a *low chair*, and on *flattening the* abdomen by a *deep inspiration*, he discovered a tumour, occupying a space, that, in his opinion, was a circumference measuring about four inches. It was evident to the touch and sight." He was free from fever; he said he was thirsty; but this the Doctor "considered only an excuse for eating oranges." The Doctor now began to attack the enemy in good earnest. He ordered *six* leeches to the side immediately over the tumour, and the bleeding to be encouraged after their dropping by *hot stupes*. He also ordered a scruple of the *blue pill* with ten grains of *calomel* to be mixed and divided into twenty pills, with the conserve of roses, and two to be taken night and morning. "The leeches entirely removed the sharp pain, but on pressure he felt sore." To render the tumour evident to the touch and sight, the ingenious contrivance of the chair, &c., was not necessary. It was now evident to the touch on lying down. On finishing the box of pills, the cough was as bad as ever. The Doctor now ordered him to remain in bed during the day, "*because* while *occasionally* up for a *few minutes*, to have his bed made, &c., he found himself much more shook by the cough, than when in the recumbent posture with his head on a *soft* and WELL stuffed pillow"!! After attacking the malady in this decisive manner for *eleven* days, the patient was no better. The Doctor having gained time for reflection, the result of this reflection was, a determination to call in assistance. A consultation was proposed to his friends, and an eminent physician was called in. After putting their heads together, (not *soft* but *well stuffed*) they determined to apply a blister over the tumour, (better *late* than never) and to keep up the discharge. They prescribed blue pill with gum ammoniac and James's powder, to be taken every night.—"In about ten days, the mother found a favorable difference in the cough" (and in her purse). In eight more days the mouth was affected by the mercury; he now coughed but seldom, and instead of the peculiar sound of *haghss*, he *barked*. The mercury was omitted, and a purgative administered; the tongue became clean; the cough ceased, and a few tepid baths enabled him to return to school, where he remained for six months, perfectly well, frequently singing a favorite song of "the happy escape."

The Doctor observes, on concluding his narrative, "It was my first intention to have given Master H.'s as a perfectly *naked* case, merely as a *beacon* to my *young* brethren." His case was indeed very likely to

prove a *naked* one, and the result, in that case, would have proved an useful *beacon* to invalids, as well as to *young* practitioners. That the lungs sympathize with the liver, the learned Doctor refers his readers for evidence to the "Facts and Observations on Liver Complaints, by *Doctor* Faithorne, of London"!! What an insult to the celebrated *Doctor* James Johnson, who has particularly treated on cutaneo-pulmonico-hepatic sympathy, and to *Dr.* Solomon, for his admirable dissertation on cerebro-genital sympathy, and on the draining of the spinal marrow!! The opinion of the eminent Physician whose assistance he called in, with respect to the origin or nature of the disease, the learned Dr. Brooke has (unintentionally, no doubt) omitted to notice. The idea of the cough being symptomatic of an affection of the liver was, in our opinion, an unfortunate one *for the patient.* The tumour was more likely to be the consequence of the cough, than the cough of it. The alteration in the voice, and the aggravation of cough on moving, were pretty strong proofs of the lungs having been principally affected. Besides, it does not appear clear that the tumour was an enlargement of the liver, or any portion of it. We really suspect that it was a spasm of the upper part of the rectus muscle, or of the right external oblique, a very common attendant on cough. Had this patient been bled, blistered, and purged, and an anodyne expectorant administered, would the cough, instead of two months, have continued a week? Was not the treatment adopted by Dr. Brooke an abuse of the system of Abernethy?

CORROSIVE SUBLIMATE.—Mr. Lendrick, of Dublin, has published the case of Mr. Edward Byrne, to whom his wife and a son by a former marriage administered a quantity of corrosive sublimate, with the view of terminating his life. Mr. Lendrick, on his first visit, found him suffering excruciating pain in the region of the stomach, attended with violent retching. Mr. B. observed to him, that he felt all on fire. He was in a very debilitated state, his limbs cold, the pulse frequent, and intermitting, and the surface of his body covered with clammy sweat. A practitioner, ignorant of the cause of his affliction, had administered an emetic, which failed to afford relief. Mr. Lendrick, having discovered the mixture of which Mr. B. had taken a dose, to be saturated with corrosive sublimate of mercury, immediately determined to have recourse to the treatment lately recommended by Dr. Orfila, of Paris. The whites of several eggs were accordingly beaten up, with an equal quantity of water, and administered, at intervals, in quantities the stomach could bear, without occasioning *painful* distention. On repeating his visit in the evening, he had the satisfaction to find his patient in less pain: the alarming symptoms had gradually diminished after the first exhibition of the antidote; his pulse was firm, and he appeared to be very drowsy. On the following day, the bowels being tender, and the pulse quick, Mr. Lendrick ordered a draught of castor oil, and the bowels to be fomented. In the evening of the same day, he found him free from pain; the castor oil draught had operated, which, with the fomentation, removed every local effect of the poison. From this time his advance to health was progressive. About the tenth day the membrane covering the shin bone became tumefied, and very painful. This affection, which often follows a long course of mercury,

gave way to the use of the warm bath. A slight degree of palsy of the right side, with nervous irritability in other respects, attended with some loss of memory, supervened, and from these complaints he was not free when Mr. Lendrick finished his report.

In cases of too great a quantity of corrosive sublimate being taken into the stomach, Dr. Orfila thinks, and every experienced or reflecting practitioner must coincide in the opinion, that vomiting is best promoted by a *diluent* liquid, and for this purpose the whites of eggs, mixed with water, is perhaps as good as any other. In the above instance, it appears that this remedy not only suspended the further action of the poison, but also removed its effects. Notwithstanding the favourable result of the exhibition of this albuminous remedy, in this instance, and the reports of Dr. Orfila, of its uniform efficacy in counteracting the poisonous effects of corrosive sublimate, when administered in time, we confess we are inclined to give a preference to a solution of the sulphuret of potass in water, because we know it to be capable of decomposing the poison and of rendering its active ingredient comparatively inert, and when the quantity of corrosive sublimate amounts only to a few grains, which is generally the case, this solution will render it incapable of doing serious mischief to the stomach or intestines, if it should not be brought up by vomiting.

SMALL-POX.—A Dr. Robinson has published two cases of small-pox, which occurred in children who had been vaccinated. The disease proved so mild in both instances as to induce the Doctor to conclude "that cow-pox alters the *effect* of the contagion of small-pox, where it suffers the agent to exert its force on the constitution, so *materially* as to render the consequent disease *almost*, if not *altogether*, a *new* one of mild character." Unfortunately for the Doctor's supposition, the matter taken from this *modified* or *new* disease, or its contagious effluvium, operates on the system of those who have not been vaccinated, in the same manner as that of unmodified or even confluent small-pox. From the *two* cases, the Doctor draws the following *three* inferences:

1. That an eruptive disease is produced by the contagion of small-pox on *some*, who had undergone the vaccine inoculation.

2. That this eruption has in some degree the form, and affects the course and changes of small-pox, although of *shorter duration*, but it is not *dangerous* to *human* life, and may be considered a *new* and mild species of that disease. (Dr. Clarke, of Dublin, calls it a Hybrid.)

3. That vaccination, so far as experience goes, appears *fully* capable of preventing the *fatal* effects of small-pox, and of ultimately banishing that formidable and loathsome disease from among mankind.

MERCURY.—Dr. Richard Grattan, of Dublin, has lately communicated to the profession a case of mortification which terminated fatally, which was "occasioned by the use" (*query*, abuse?) "of mercury" The unfortunate patient was a female of only ten years of age. When the Doctor first saw her, "she laboured under febrile excitement, and appeared to be in the last stage of disease. The head seeming to suffer most, and from general appearance, he concluded that water *had* either collected *in* the brain or was on the point of being effused in the ventricles. Delirium, with frequent screaming, alternated with *occa-*

sional intervals of stupor, or heaviness, *black, dry* tongue, *long* pulse, seldom under 130, beating of the temples, face sometimes pale, sometimes flushed, were the most prominent symptoms." The Doctor ordered two grains of calomel to be administered, and afterwards a castor oil draught; leeches to be applied to the temples, and the head to be shaved. The symptoms continuing, five ounces of blood were taken from the temporal artery, and a blister to the back part of the head, and to the nape of the neck; a pill composed of two grains of calomel, and two of ipecacuan powder, was given twice, or sometimes thrice a day, with the exception of those days on which the oil draught was administered; so that on the sixth day of admission, only ten pills had been taken. The gums now became sore, and *every alarming* symptom disappeared. "A high degree of salivation came on, the face and lips becoming tumefied. After four or five days, a small vesicle appeared near the left angle of the mouth, which soon became black. The *fermenting* poultice was applied, and bark, opium, and wine were administered. The symptoms of salivation continued unabated; the breath became extremely offensive, the mortification spread, and the patient gradually sunk till death terminated her sufferings." The head not having been opened, the Doctor does not venture an opinion as to the nature or cause of her fever. The result has given rise to the following very sensible reflections, which cannot fail to prove highly satisfactory to the parents of the unfortunate patient.

"It is," says the Doctor, "the peculiar misfortune of *our* profession, that the physician, however great his information, or extensive his experience, cannot pronounce with certainty as to the effects of medicines. The functions of the animal economy are so easily disturbed, and diseased actions are produced by so many various causes, either acting from without, or originating in the system itself, that it is always difficult to distinguish between those different actions, and often impossible to trace them to their original sources. Could we uniformly succeed in doing so, the practice of medicine would then rest on a sure foundation, and no longer continue what it now is—conjectural and uncertain"!!

"Great improvements, it is true, have been made. The study of physiology has corrected many errors, and by suggesting more accurate and extensive views of the different functions, has rendered our practice more judicious and consistent than heretofore. Still, however, it must be acknowledged, that we have at best but a faint glimpse of the truth, and that the instances in which we can decide with certainty are far inferior in number to those of which we are in a great measure ignorant. Hence it is, that, in the treatment of disease, we are so often obliged to feel our way with caution, judging of the propriety of our practice more by the result, than from any previous conviction of our own. We succeed, and we felicitate ourselves—sometimes without reason, for it sometimes happens that nature alone was sufficient to effect the cure. We fail, and we blame ourselves—often unjustly, for the fault was not our's, but owing rather to a want of sufficient energy in the vital principle to second our efforts. Sometimes, on the contrary, we expose ourselves to well-merited censure, either for omitting to use the proper remedies, or for employing them without sufficient discrimination.

A similar case to the foregoing one was published by a bookseller at Leeds, about fifteen years ago. The unfortunate subject was much younger; the affection of the mouth and face came on a day or two after taking Ching's worm lozenges, the basis of which is calomel. That patient died in great agony.

It is worthy of notice, that nauseating medicines administered with or during the use of mercury, promote its absorption. The antimonial powder or wine, taken during the use of mercury, evidently hastens salivation, probably by increasing the action of the absorbent vessels of the stomach. The effects of mercury administered at short intervals during fever, should be most attentively watched, for on some constitutions half a grain administered at intervals will have as great an effect in producing salivation, as six times the quantity will on others. If therefore a small dose exceeds the intended effect in the course of a day or two, no blame can attach to the prescriber.

GALVANISM.—For the following cases of affection of the stomach, &c. in which galvanism, &c. proved beneficial, we are indebted to Mr. La Beaume of Southampton Row.

Case 1.—T. F. Esq. was recommended to me by an eminent country practitioner, with the following statement of his case, dated 28th July, 1820. "That Mr. F. had not been in good health for years, having always more or less of stomach derangement, indigestion, irregular bowels, vitiated appetite, and affected with wandering pains and misplaced gout. In November, 1819, he became very feverish, with oppressed breathing and great uneasiness in his right side, and symptoms which pointed out inflammation of the liver, for which he was bled freely, and such means were used as I judged efficient and proper in his case. After the inflammatory diathesis had subsided, he went through a regular course of mercury, with a proper attention to the excretions of the bowels, by judicious purges; and this was particularly necessary, as the excretions were always faulty and clay coloured, urine highly coloured, what is commonly called bilious. The use of mercury brought on a complete attack of gout in his feet, and the ancle joints suffered much from the inflammation and deposit of lymph, &c. Mr. F. has still great stiffness and weakness in the ancles, and cannot take his usual exercise, neither does the liver at present secrete any active bile. He is now recommended horse and walking exercise, attention to diet, and the regular discharge from his bowels secured by a pill composed of the blue pill and rhubarb, in equal parts. Every minutiæ of his disease he is well able to describe to you, having here pointed out the leading features of his case. I have therefore recommended to him to consult you upon the propriety of the galvanic stimulus to the liver, and the neighbouring parts subservient to digestion, and the air-pump vapour bath, to his crippled ancle joints. He is quite willing to follow your directions, and in your hands I leave him, in full confidence of your skill."

This patient is about sixty years of age, and of a sanguine temperament. I judged that the employment of galvanism would be productive of great benefit in the improvement of his general health, as well as the removal of his gouty affection. In this I was not mistaken, as appeared by the result of a short trial. In the first instance he had

recourse to a purge of castor oil; the galvanic excitement frequently repeated from the 1st to the 29th August, with the occasional aid of rhubarb and the carbonate of soda, fully restored the tone of the stomach, produced a regular action of the liver and bowels, without any aperient medicine whatever, and the strength of the ancle joints was regained, without having recourse to the local application of the air-pump vapour-bath. The benefit obtained by Mr. F. was not a transient one. For several months after he left me, I received a letter from him, giving me the pleasing information that his digestive functions were quite restored, and the liver and bowels had been brought into perfect regularity, that his gouty pains had altogether left him, and that he had continued to enjoy a robust state of health. I have also recently seen him in town, and have lately heard from him, confirming his continued enjoyment of health and strength. May 19, 1821.

Case 2.—A gentleman about thirty years of age, the patient of an eminent physician in full practice in town, was recommended to me on the 10th of June, 1820. His case was one which excited considerable interest, as he had for more than ten years suffered extremely from a torpor of the liver and constipation of bowels. The stomach too had been in a state of chronic inflammation, and the whole train of dyspeptic symptoms was experienced by the patient from time to time. The tongue was white and furred, pulse low and slow, extremities exceedingly cold, and the skin constricted and irritable; every thing that medicine and diet could do, had been tried without any benefit; he had also made several long voyages for the removal of his complaint, but without success. The first application of galvanism produced immediate benefit. This remedy was repeated for three weeks with the greatest advantage; purgatives were discontinued after the first week, as the biliary secretions and a regular state of the bowels were effected by galvanic agency. At the end of this short period, the patient desisted from the use of this beneficial remedy, went into the country for a month, and then returned to town in a state of perfect health. From too great corporeal and mental exertion, and a change of habit by no means favourable to the re-establishment of health, and exposure to cold, brought on a slight obstruction of the bowels. He then called on me again, and was induced to employ the galvanism for a few days, which fully restored the tone of his digestive organs, and he now continues to enjoy perfect health. As the recovery of the patient has been effected by the mode in which I employed the galvanism, the fact of its singular efficacy is one of the greatest importance to nervous and bilious invalids. I shall be happy to refer any respectable patient to the physician, under whose immediate observation this took place, for the confirmation of what I have here stated, that the galvanism has effected the cure of a chronic liver complaint of ten years' continuance, after the failure of mercurial remedies repeatedly tried in all its various forms.

Case 3.—An extraordinary case of recent occurrence, in which the medical powers of galvanism in the derangement of the stomach has effected remarkable recovery, I shall here briefly detail. On the 1st May, 1821, a married lady of rank and fortune who had from her childhood laboured under dyspeptic affections, and disordered respira-

tion, was sent to me by her medical attendant for a trial of galvanism, after the failure of every medical means for the removal of her stomach complaint. This patient had been for five months labouring under Anasarca Dropsy, the digestive organs were in a state of the greatest disorder, the stomach could retain no food, she had for some time constantly vomited every thing she ate, and even toast and water could no longer be retained. The alvine secretions indicated the total absence of biliary action. The tongue was foul, the pulse quick and feeble, and the whole system seemed to be sinking under the accumulated load of disease; nausea, vomiting and faintness, with restlessness and paroxysms of acute pain in the limbs, were the urgent symptoms of which she complained. From the state of the patient, I did not entertain any hope that the galvanism would be productive of advantage, neither did her medical adviser recommend it, but as an experiment which would gratify the anxious friends of the patient. However, I am happy to add we were mistaken in the estimation we had formed of the galvanic agency in restoring the vital energy of that important organ, the stomach. After the first application of galvanism, the lady immediately felt greatly relieved, the vomiting ceased, she was enabled to retain her food. The second application having removed nausea, she ate with appetite, and digested her food. After the third application she slept soundly and was refreshed by rest, the bowels became active, she no longer had any faintness, was enabled to take carriage exercise for several hours in the day without fatigue, and the subsequent few visits I made her, at her own house, have afforded me the greatest pleasure in observing the extraordinary good effects of the galvanic influence in restoring the tone of the stomach and bowels, and producing a rapid recovery of the digestive organs without the aid of any medicine whatever. I am also happy to add, that her dropsical affection is yielding fast to the judicious remedies employed by her medical attendant, who is one of the first practitioners in the west end of the town.

Three interesting cases of the successful employment of galvanism in Gutta Serena, shall be given in our next number.

BILIOUS COMPLAINTS, &c.—Since the publication of our last number, we have received no less than four books on *bilious* complaints, one by Dr. Ayre, of Hull; one by Dr. Philip, late Physician to the Worcester Infirmary; one by a Mr. Hare, of London, who styles himself a *Fellow* of the Royal College of Surgeons, *in* London, F.L.S. &c.; and one by a Dr. Jackson; and also, notices of two works being in the press, on derangements of the liver, internal organs, and nervous complaints, by the *learned Dr.* Jordan, of London, and Dr. Solomon, of Birmingham.

In our review of the *learned Doctor* James Johnson's Treatise on *Derangements* of the Liver, &c. the Doctor has accused us of having *intentionally* neglected to notice his improved mode of treating the diseases, on which he has treated;—before we enter on analyses of the works of which we have received copies, we shall therefore conclude our remarks on *Doctor* Johnson's eight and sixpenny book. Although the work is entitled a Treatise on "Derangements of the *Liver*," the author commences with affections of the viscera of the chest. "In ALL inflammatory affections of the lungs," says the learned Doctor,

"*nature* ATTEMPTS the cure by *expectoration;* but in the severer cases she is *seldom* successful; for besides *that* the discharge is *inefficient*, the *cough* and *fever* attending *this* process are *harassing and dangerous* to the patient, who seldom *escapes without consequences* resulting from this *natural attempt* at a cure, which lay the foundation of future illness"!!! This quotation is a very fair specimen of this learned author's literary talents, and his CLEAR mode of expressing his *practical* ideas. To the ignorant, who cannot see beyond three words, it may indeed convey a wonderful idea of the author's profound learning, but is there in the profession, a man, who would not throw this eight and sixpenny book behind the fire, or would proceed one line further, after reading such contemptible jargon? "Consequences resulting from this *natural* attempt at cure"!!

Now in the works of *Drs.* Solomon, Brodum, Lambert, Eady, or any other *physician*, with or without an *honorary* diploma, is there any thing so truly absurd, so truly ridiculous? The *learned* gentleman then states that "*pneumonia* may be cured by bleeding, *without* expectorations"!!! Now under the head of pneumonia, modern nosologists comprehend inflammation of the viscera of the chest. In cases of inflammation of the external membrane of the lungs, termed pleurisy, or even of the cellular substance of the lungs, the cough is always dry for many days after the first attack, and, therefore, if the inflammation be resolved by bleeding, no expectoration will or can ensue. In such cases, expectoration is the consequence of extension of the disease, to the membranous lining of the bronchia. We presume the *learned Doctor* means *peripneumonia* (inflammation of the lungs), and, if so, our observations equally apply to it.—"In recovering from acute diseases, but particularly from one, where so important an organ as the lungs has suffered," says this sapient gentleman or physician, "the *greatest presence* of mind is necessary to restrain the patient's appetite, which *almost* invariably exceeds the power of digestion, and produces a *tendency* to the febrile disease"!!!

"But *this* is not all; blood is formed in such abundance by the *new* supply of food that the *excrements* are not *adequate* to keep a *proper equilibrium in the circulation*, hence," says he, "the *slightest* degree of plethora is apt to oppress the weakened organ, and relapse is the consequence. This caution," proceeds the learned Doctor, "cannot be too strongly impressed on the *practitioner's* mind, since *any* sanction he may give to the solicitations of the patient, *or friends*, will *certainly* be remembered when the *sinister* occurrence takes place"!!!

To our *medical* readers, an apology is necessary for making such ridiculous quotations; but we hope, on considering the primary objects of our publication, viz. exposure of quackery, &c. they will not suppose that we have any intention to insult their understanding. If an apology they expect, the only one we can offer is, that the learned author has published his work professedly for the information of the *medical* profession, and that he declares himself to be competent to the task of analysing medical works, and, for this purpose, has absolutely instituted a chiro-medical review, to which some *medical* men subscribe!!!!

Every practitioner of observation is aware, that patients afflicted with inflammation of the lungs have no inclination to eat; and even when in

a state of convalescence, if they should take more than the stomach will digest, a disorder of that organ is more likely to ensue than a degree of plethora capable of inducing inflammation in the lungs. A relapse is generally the consequence of exposure to air, or the imprudent use of vinous or spirituous liquors. The most ignorant old woman knows, that to produce plethora, the quantity of food taken into the stomach must be properly digested; and if the stomach be not equal to it, how can plethora follow? In the treatment of asthma, the *learned Doctor* says, "our *grand dependence* is on *laudanum, ether, camphor, assafœtida, valerian,* and antimonials, or ipecacuanha, to *encourage expectoration.* I can speak," says he, "from *observation*, that opium is in general given with too sparing a hand, as well as ether, camphor, &c."!!! Now, will any *medical* man say, after reading the above observation, that the author ever attended a case of asthma? The treatment of a fit of asthma depends on the state of the constitution. If general debility prevails, the legs œdematous, and the stomach disordered, what would be the effect of a large dose of opium? It would indeed, in our humble opinion, soon terminate the paroxysm; and the patient, instead of expectorating, would soon expire. If, on the contrary, the patient should be in a plethoric state, (in which case, the vessels of the brain are always overloaded, in consequence of the constricted state of the lungs, or compressed state of the viscera of the chest retarding the flow of blood from the head), what would be the effect of a large dose of opium? Would it not produce fatal apoplexy? As to opium promoting expectoration in asthma, every asthmatic knows that it has uniformly a contrary effect. In the treatment of pulmonary consumption, this observant and learned Physician asserts, "that *pure* air and *elevated* situations are JUDICIOUS, and that those who live in marshes (low situations) where *hydrogen* abounds, are not so subject to consumptions"!!! In marshy countries, and in elevated situations, consumption prevails, as much as in any part of Europe. In marshy countries they are indeed more frequent than in any other. "As to the various remedies which have acquired an ephemeral reputation, only to disappear like wave succeeding wave, it is needless," says he, "to name them.

"Foxglove and *inflammable* gas are recent examples; and as to the Prussic acid and vapour of tar, they have *evaporated* into *air, thin air*"!!! Now, by whom has *hydrogen* been recommended for consumption? The case is, the author knows no more of air or pneumatic chemistry, than an apothecary's errand boy, who generally pretends to be acquainted with medicine; and as to the other articles, they have been recommended only as *auxiliaries*, and not as specifics, and that they are valuable auxiliaries, no *medical* man of experience will deny.

"Disorders of the stomach," the erudite author states, "produce such LESION of FUNCTIONS in the *other digestive* organs, particularly the *liver* and INTESTINES, that some remedial as well as *preventive* measures are necessary"!!!—*Lesion* of *functions*!!! now it is clear, by this expression, that the learned gentleman or physician, who is very partial to scraps of Latin, is absolutely unacquainted with either the meaning of the word *lesion*, or that of *function*—so much then for his knowledge of the Latin language, from which these words are derived. The remedies for disorders of stomach, *lesion* of *functions*, &c. he pro-

ceeds, "chiefly consist in *evacuations* and *tonics, alternated* and *combined*"!! On this mode of treating disorders of the stomach, we need not trouble ourselves to make an observation, for our non-medical readers must be aware that such disorders arise from opposite causes, and are attended with opposite states of the system. The learned Doctor would have been an excellent witness for his equally learned brother practitioner, *Dr.* Rymer, proprietor of the Cardiac Tincture, a remedy for disorders of the stomach, &c. in his late action against us for a libel on that nostrum.

Treatment of Diarrhœa, (Looseness.)—"Suppose," says the erudite Doctor, "a *man* applies to *you* with the usual symptoms of diarrhœa. If *you* find the complaint *has* not been of *long* duration, that he has no febrile symptoms *about* HIM, and that *he* does not labour under any organic disease, *you* may order him to confine himself to *the* house for *a* day or *two,* to clothe *himself* WELL, to eat *few* vegetables, and to take the following mixture:

Take of Aromatic confection, one drachm;
Cretaceous mixture, four ounces;
Tincture of opium, a fluid drachm;
Compound tincture of cardamoms, two drachms; Mix.

Two large spoonsful to be taken after every liquid motion"!! "After two or three doses of this medicine the diarrhœa will *stop.* By this practice," says he, "*I* have cured *hundreds* of bowel complaints, and that in a few hours, while the *very same description* of diarrhœas *were* kept protracted under cure for two or three weeks by the *routine* practice of opiates and purgatives, *combined* or *alternated*"!!! Hence the learned Doctor has *really* out-solomoned Dr. Solomon himself!!

To have recourse to an opiate with an aromatic, is the practice of all old women, and we may venture to say that there is not a medical man in this country, of one year's experience, who has not witnessed the *bad* effects of it. No cautious practitioner would attempt to check diarrhœa on its commencement; it is very seldom, if ever, a *primary* disease, and the sudden checking of it has been followed by the most serious affections of the head, chest, and intestines. "Many hundreds" of lives have been destroyed by this inconsiderate treatment.

Cholera morbus.—"The idea," says the *Doctor,* "is *fast* gaining ground, that *most* diseases may be referred to two *primary* classes, viz. those of *function* and those of *structure*"!!! He is satisfied that "it is *proved* that *functional* will end in *structural* disease, over which *we* have very little power or control"!!! Now every practitioner, acquainted with the progress of organic disease, knows that it will continue creeping on for some time in the substance of an organ, without disturbing its functions.

The *idea* of two primary classes of diseases may have gained ground among SOME NAVY surgeons, but in the minds of *practitioners* nothing so contemptibly ridiculous has yet entered. On the treatment of this disease, the learned author states, that "experience has taught him that the practice of Sydenham, Cullen, and most authors on their authority, of administering warm water or chamomile tea *at* the beginning, till the *offending* bile is *all* cleared away, is not only *erroneous* but injurious, for the ingurgitation of *warm fluids* promotes the inordinate secre-

tion of bile, instead of checking it." Sydenham, Cullen, and other authors, recommend warm water to dilute the bile, which is morbidly acrid, and to prevent spasms; they also recommend an opiate, to allay excessive irritation, and thereby to prevent inflammation; and to this practice no physician of experience will object. The excessive secretion of bile is the consequence of morbid or inflammatory excitement of the liver, and therefore the practice which the learned Doctor recommends of administering "cordial draughts composed of aromatic confection, æther, laudanum, and cinnamon," is that of old women in general, and has proved highly injurious.

The learned author also details his *scientific* method of treating acute and chronic hepatitis (inflammation of the liver), jaundice, PLAY *of the passions, literary studies,* biliary derangement, diseases of the heart, and *nervous* diseases, the value of which the above quotations and observations will enable our readers to appreciate: they will also, we hope, afford a satisfactory excuse for not wasting our time in transcribing them, or for not devoting more of our pages to such contemptible jargon.

The Doctor, however, has the vanity to suppose, or rather the effrontery to assert, that he writes for the information of the medical profession!!! He, however, condescends to give his *professional* work a *popular* title, and in the public prints a still more *popular* advertisement!!! He feelingly advises his non-medical readers not to trust to their own judgment, for domestic medicine is *dangerous* quackery; but to apply to the fountain head; and as he is capable of giving information to the profession, they must be stupid indeed if, after reading his works, they should be at a loss to discover the practitioner, who is most entitled to implicit confidence.

The *Doctor's* system is indeed a most splendid or politic improvement on that of *Doctor* Solomon or of *Doctor* Jordan, the two latter *physicians* recommending their readers afflicted with the numerous diseases, on which they treat more learnedly or more scientifically than any cotemporary, to take their nostrums, from which they derive the *small* profit of seven shillings out of eight; whereas the learned DR. Johnson gives a prescription, for the customary fee to a physician of *eminence,* viz. one guinea!!

Now if this miserable scribbler, or as the Americans term such authors, "jargonic writers," really supposes that he publishes his ideas or dreams for the information of the medical world, it must be clear to every practitioner, that he is unacquainted with the state of medicine in this country. If such works convey any thing like useful information to a member of the profession, that member must indeed be an ignoramus or an idiot. It is works of this kind that have destroyed the confidence of men of discernment in the healing art. The public is now able to form an estimate of the value or merits of a medical publication, and when such works are brought forward for the perusal of *medical* men, and puffed off by the Editors of medical reviews, what opinion can the non-medical readers form of the art or science of medicine? If Dr. Duncan, jun., Dr. Uwins, Dr. Harrison, and Dr. Palmer, puff off such contemptible trash, can they be surprised that the nostrum trade should flourish, or that men of intellect should go to a patent medicine shop in

preference to that of an apothecary? Their puffing accounts of such works, to say the best of them, tend greatly to check the progress of the *science* of medicine, and thereby to injure the public. An honest man, in editing a review or journal, prides himself on acting independently of the proprietors of the work, and of the medical profession; he holds in view the *honour* of the profession, and the *good* of his fellow creatures. If jargon the most unintelligible, and practice, which merits no other title than medical harlequinism, are to be extolled, they may as well eulogize quackery, and cordially join in the chorus to an old song, "Tantara ra ra, quacks all." The consequences of such friendly, unmerited encomiums, to the profession and to the public are very injurious. The weak authors thinking they really merit the commendations, devote their time to scribbling instead of reading; junior practitioners, on seeing such contemptible works praised, suppose that they have nothing to learn, and the non-medical readers of the works thus panegyrized, conclude that the practice of medicine is a system of quackery. Indeed, Drs. Gregory, Uwins, Harrison, and Palmer, it is cruel to encourage such scribblers to make books, for you must be aware that their trade will flourish only for a few months, and terminate in their disgrace. Is it not unjust to compliment these "ephemeral productions" of "air, thin air," and not to give a *proportional* degree of praise to the works of Drs. Solomon and Jordan, and the practice of Drs. Eady and Lambert? On going over the matter we have prepared for the present number, we find that if we insert our analyses of the works of Drs. Ayre and Philip, and Messrs. Hare and Jackson, we must omit communications, &c. of more importance. We have therefore set them aside for the next number, which we should not have done, had we discovered in either work one remark or suggestion of practical utility. By this delay our readers will not suffer.

DISPENSARIES.—Sirs, As you have noticed dispensaries in your last number, I beg to send you a few observations on them, which will serve to shew, that they are, in one way or another, very productive concerns to the medical officers who attend them. A short time ago, on a vacancy offering for Physician to a Dispensary, 500 new governors were added to the list in two days, who all voted for one of the candidates, and he succeeded. On inquiry being made as to the stations in life of these new governors (I suppose by the opposite party), they were discovered to be nurses and patients in an hospital where this physician attended; and others amongst the lowest classes in society. The committee of the institution were informed of this, and the only answer they could give was, that they were perfectly satisfied the physician had paid the subscriptions; but the charity was benefited 500 guineas!!! And, I presume, as Charity's mantle covers a multitude of sins, this little piece of artful management crept under cover. In this case the Doctor paid a good price for the liberty to dose the poor, hoping, no doubt, to make them a stepping stone, to repay himself out of the pockets of the rich.

Another case I shall give you, shews more contrivance. A Dispensary is thought necessary for the establishment of a person in a particular branch of the practice of surgery; family connexions, interest, and the aid of a professed collector, acquainted with all the charitable and humane in town (who obtains a good income from the poundage he re-

ceives,) are all set in motion; a few names are advertised; these serve as decoys to others, and to bring the person for *whose benefit* the Dispensary is formed, before the public; after a short time the thanks of the governors or committee are voted to him, for the great benefits he has rendered the institution; the number of cures performed are mentioned, to which is prefixed, the names of *all* the persons who have subscribed, the governors, &c. &c.; the public no doubt believe that *some* at least of the governors, whose respectable names have been thus obtained, are *present*:—No such thing, the party himself, secretary, collector, and a friend or two, form this divan; and the number of the persons said to be cured would be very much cut down, or dwindled to nothing, could the patients themselves be questioned, probably the killed and wounded would form the greatest proportion. Sometimes these interested officers compliment one another; yet it is supposed the body of governors do this, or in some cases these coadjutors go so far as to present a piece of plate to the person who projected, and is to be served by this institution, out of the money subscribed for the use of the charity. Thus are the public deceived, and plundered, and what is worse, induced to place their health, and future dependent comforts, in the hands of a man, whose *ignorance* is probably proverbial amongst those that know him. To these results, oftentimes fatal to the peace and happiness of families, pride, ostentation, and real charity, jointly contribute; the pride of having supplicants for favours influences some; the ostentatious display of their names in advertisements, induces others, and the truly charitable and beneficent feelings of many, are wrought upon by artful and designing men, to produce them a golden harvest, regardless of the widow's or the orphan's tears, which they have caused by their ignorance and incapacity; but these drops of anguish fall not unrecorded; they melt the unhallowed treasure, till it sinks from the grasp in the present or next generation, whilst the retrospect renders the last hour of conflicting mortality with eternity, dreadful to the sufferer, and miserable to the beholder. I am, Sirs, your's very obediently,

AN OBSERVER.

DEAFNESS.—Mr. Wright, in his last work on Nervous Deafness, very justly remarks, "That no class of patients have ever been more the victims of *ignorance* and *imposition*, than those who labour under a deprivation or diminution of the sense of hearing." We are led to coincide most fully with the above opinion, in consequence of our streets being placarded with bills and advertisements, inserted in many papers from a man of the name of Rowden, who presumes to style himself an aurist. We call the attention of our readers to the letter of a Constant Reader, page 47, of our 38th number, for February, 1819, where they will see this same William Rowden, who formerly exercised the trade of a carpenter and axle-tree maker, at Fisherton Anger, near Salisbury, was in town about that time, and under the name of Home and Co., pretended to have a specific for deafness. As to specifics, no person of common sense will ever believe there can be any for a complaint so various in its nature and origin, as deafness; and this pretended aurist would derive importance from our dwelling upon his name, who must, no doubt, be very well qualified to undertake the surgical treatment of so delicate an organ as the ear, when after the time he pretends to have devoted to the study of it, he has not *yet* learned to spell the

names of the several parts he mentions in his advertisements. But we will not waste our time further upon this man, and only regret that the same wise regulations do not exist in this metropolis, and indeed generally, as are adopted at Guernsey, where there is so strict an attention paid by the civil power to prevent itinerant quacks from imposing on the credulous, that this very William Rowden was not allowed to shew the wonderful effects of either his specific or great study, although he strove very hard to gain admission into that island for the purpose.

Feeling that we are pursuing a course beneficial for the community, by exposing quackery, we shall in our next number give some particulars of another of these pretended aurists, at the Hermitage, Edgeware Road, who has had the audacity to impose upon a person, who became one of the duped, by stating that it was a concern in which Mr. Astley Cooper had a share, and in confirmation of the fact, a letter was prepared for the patient to take to that gentleman, a copy of which, and his reply, we hope to give in our next.

QUACKERY.—I am in practice as a consulting surgeon, and admire the spirit with which you lash quackery, both regular and irregular; but you must allow me to shew that patients themselves are the cause of Empiricism, as I think I shall convince you and your readers, by the following instances.

I have attained considerable celebrity, and in some particular complaints, can justify my pretensions to a niche in the Temple of Fame, by affording instant and permanent relief. This I feel great pride and pleasure in performing, whenever such cases occur. One, amongst many, was a gentleman, who came from the West Indies on purpose for my advice, called on me in his carriage, was cured on his second visit, and paid me, with abundance of compliments, a fee, which of course I could not look at till he had departed, when I found it was ONE POUND!

Another, a *very old* gentleman, who was relieved in the same speedy manner, and was equally LIBERAL! but *probably*, he means to remember me in his will.

I could give you many instances where my conduct has been thus honourable, although I might have kept these patients under my care for months, and then have cured them; yet so inconsiderate, and I will even say dishonourable has been *their* conduct. I do not mean to assert that I am *more* honourable than all other professional men, for I hear the same tale from many who have *ability* to relieve, but who, like me, have thus suffered for their generous behaviour. Men of *no principle* in the profession will guard against their patients' parsimony; and those of *no ability* will of necessity oblige their patients to be visited frequently; but I would wish to ask you and your readers, whether the treatment I have described, and which professional men are often subjected to, does not hold out an incentive to quackery and imposition? I certainly think that a person of fortune, receiving *speedy* and *permanent* relief from a distressing complaint, at the hands of a man who has devoted a large portion of his life, and considerable expence, to acquire competent abilities, should offer a reward proportionate to the benefit the patient derives; and if this plan were more generally adopted, empiricism would receive its death-wound. I am, Sirs, Yours, &c.

AN OLD SURGEON.

QUACKERY.—SIRS, You have, *at last,* published my Letter, sent to you nearly three months ago, or about the end of December. Not finding its appearance *in February,* though promised at the first call in January to inquire about it, whether adopted or rejected, I called again, and received that promise which has been fulfilled in the 63d number for March; accompanied with friendly remarks, and some *gentle satire* on my personal defects, or rather moral imperfections.

For the former, receive my *sincere* thanks. For the latter, an honest acknowledgment, that those remarks are *too well*-founded; nor must I be angry at *such* reproof, because you have both a propensity and an aptitude for keenness of reprehension, towards all who stand exposed to animadversions from your pen. Possibly, what was said of an old English Poet, may, with a small variation, be applied to you:—

"For pointed satire I would *Buckhurst* choose;
"The best good man with the worst-natur'd muse."

However, Sirs, if my Letter had appeared a month or two *sooner,* I candidly avow that I should have been *more obliged;* because it is possible that the volume about Dr. W. and his "*benign* medicines," might then have been printed in *March* or *April;* which now *cannot* appear till the middle or end of May, *if then**. Its appearance will *entirely* depend on Subscribers.

Before and soon after the interview I had with you at the end of January, my intention was to have required half a crown, and I think that I then named that matter, with my tongue to you—But I neglected or forgot to send the *alteration;* and so TWO SHILLINGS appeared, as the sum required from each subscriber.

At this moment I know not if you have had half a dozen, or half a hundred, or half five hundred, deposits, of that amount, sent in: but this fact I hope to acquire, by making inquiry at the Hall to-morrow.

To as many as be now paid, the volume, when printed, shall be sent, *without* any more charge; and *also,* to as many more as shall arrive before the appearance of this Letter in your 64th Number, for *April;* BUT, *after* that, I beg leave to say, that it *must* be HALF A CROWN, from every subsequent subscriber, because those *modest* men the Booksellers, for the trouble of acting, *as porters,* to lay their hands on my property, without risk of sale, and transfer it from city to city and large towns, will require 25 per cent., not out of merely the *profits,* but of *the whole stock.* The remainder (18d.) would not properly pay stationer, printer, folder, &c. with such surplus for recompence as I am fairly entitled to for *my* share of *labour;* to say nothing of *profit,* which, as *Editor,* I *ought* to have.—*Ergo,* I expect HALF A CROWN, *except* from my warmest friends, in this cold month of March. *April* shall be rather more genial to my reasonable expectations.

Sirs, I am not well! *If* I die soon, you *shall have the book,* from *me* or my surviving *friends;* and publish it in what way you please, *when* my tongue and pen be incapable of expressing volition or choice.

---

* The reader will look at the date of this letter, and that duly considered, every subsequent passage will be perfectly intelligible. We could not give insertion to this letter at an earlier period. Ed.

But I shall request the fatal javelin-bearer, Mr. *Bony*-face, to postpone his visit *to me* until I have accomplished *three* or *four* grand objects.—*Two* of them not thought of till within *the last three* months.

The *first* is to benefit EVERY *nation* upon earth: the plan whereof will soon appear in a POEM, now *completed*, and containing more than 2760 rhymes.

The *second* is an institution to confer great good, highly important to all, but in an *especial* degree to the *medical* brotherhood, through the whole empire of the United British Isles.

The third and fourth I have had in contemplation, and on paper, some years, to benefit all the people of *this* island, and as many more as may deem them worthy of adoption. From these I expect, and *will have*, *emolument*; or they shall perish with me.

From the *first* and *second*, *only fame*; but it will be fame of the best kind,—for *practical wisdom*, IF the schemes be sanctioned by national adoption;—for benevolence and *good intentions*, as a projector more refined than solid, if *not* adopted.

The other two, being *lucrative* concerns, I will *share* in that lucre, or be *entitled* to share in it, with transmissible right to my *heir* or *devisee*, OR society shall never have the suggestions from me. I have not lived half a century in vain; not without acquiring knowledge of the base *selfishness* of mankind; and will *no longer* be the dupe that I have been, the silly neglecter of SELF.

Such, Mr. Editor, are my *designs*; and, therefore, I have no immediate wish to travel into another country, and cross that bourn, or brook, or river, or gulph, which (like the Tweed by a *Scotchman*) is not re-crossed, except in ghostly form.

I shall put the volume *under seal*, *superscribed* FOR YOU, in case of a contingency contrary to my wish, and not accordant with my present expectation: though my health, at this moment, is not firm and robust, but shaken by these *cold* March winds.

If the subscriptions prove so *scanty*, that I resolve to keep the volume under seal for a year or two; then, Sirs, I must take the liberty not to return the deposits, but will send an *ad valorem* or equivalent, *in print*, and every subscriber shall receive some useful *half-crown* volume, provided there be copies enow left to send one *to each* of the few subscribers. If not sufficient for all, the others shall have some *new* (half-crown) *medical* pamphlet; (not *magazine*, nor *review*, nor *gazette*, nor any *periodical* work) but some clever new production which may happen to have just appeared ready for sale, by the end of May, or at farthest, Midsummer-day; and of which, with your leave, I shall give notice in your 66th Number, for JUNE*. By that time there will be just cause to relinquish every hope, about the *re*-publication of Walwyn's singular book; nor shall I hereafter think so highly of the *liberality*, and love of knowledge, in *medical* gentlemen, as I now do.

Many of these latter *dubious* remarks may be eventually useless; for I have confidence of success; but publish it I will not, without *previous certainty* of expence to be immediately forthcoming.

---

* E. M. will finish his hopes of Walwynnian patronage on the 1st of August.

A severe cold for several days past, has rendered me rather irritable in *body* and *mind*. So, I will write no more till next month, to thank subscribers, and finish all *previous* statements about *Doctor Walwyn*.

I am, Sirs, respectfully, your obliged, &c.

March 20th, 1821. E. M.

MALVERN WATER.—A subscriber, near Kidderminster, expresses his surprise that we "have so long neglected to notice the *interesting* dispute between Dr. Philip and Dr. Scudamore, respecting the component parts of the Malvern water." Had we considered their papers *interesting* to the *public*, we should certainly have taken the first opportunity to notice them. Dr. Scudamore contends, that in the water of one well he could not discover any trace of iron, and the manner in which he relates his experiments, is certainly very satisfactory to us. Dr. Wilson Philip, on the contrary, asserts that he did detect the existence of iron, in the water of the same well; but so very small was the proportion, that to take a dose of it, the patient should at least swallow fifteen gallons of the water!! The dispute therefore is interesting only to *philosophical* chemists; to the public, or to medical practitioners, it is not of the smallest importance. Dr. Philip, however, asserts that his wife and family, during the use of the water on the spot, did become feverish, indeed so much so, that he thought it right to order them to return home (Worcester) immediately. The Doctor is evidently a physician of very minute observation and nice conclusions. Now, might not the fever, &c. have been the consequence of breathing a more pure air than they had been accustomed to, or of a different mode of living? The learned Vicar of Hoo, after asserting on oath that he was restored to health by a nostrum, admitted that, when he commenced taking it, he discontinued the practice which evidently produced the complaint, and also took an extra glass of wine after or during dinner!!!

Drs. PHILIP, HASTINGS, and ABEL, *versus* Mr. BROUGHTON.—Dr. Philip, instead of repeating his experiments on Rabbits, to prove the influence of the galvanic fluid conducted by the eighth pair of nerves to the stomach, in promoting digestion, has recourse to *assertions* to prove that Mr. Broughton's experiments, and his conclusions, are not entitled to attention. As we intend to repeat the experiments in the course of the first week in June, we shall postpone noticing the pro and con statements, till we are enabled to speak decidedly on the leading points in dispute.

PRINTING.—Mr. Gassicourt proposes to take impressions from recent manuscripts, by means of the fusible metals. In order to shew the application of it, he pastes a piece of white paper on the bottom of a china saucer, and allows it to dry; he then writes upon it with common writing ink, and sprinkles some finely powdered gum arabic over the writing, which produces a slight relief. When it is well dried, and the adhering powder brushed off, the fusible metal is poured into the saucer, and is cooled rapidly, to prevent crystallization. The metal then takes a cast off the writing, and when it is immersed in slightly warm water, to remove adhering gum impressions may be taken from it as from a copper-plate.

Dr. JAMES JOHNSON.—Since the article in our present number on this scribbler's *practical* work on hepatic derangement (not cerebral)

was printed, we have been informed, that in order to save the readers of his quarterly pamphlet, the trouble of referring to our work for our opinion of the real merits of his book, he has been so obliging as to attempt to convince them, that whatever comes from us is totally unworthy of notice. The writer, he says, is a dealer in *medicine chests*. He is connected with a Medical Hall, where medicine chests are fitted up, and therefore, in his opinion, cannot be a competent judge of the merits of a medical dissertation!!! Are then the subscribers to his *quarterly* journal of medical jargon, so very stupid, as to admit this as an excuse for his not attempting a refutation of our observations? If our remarks are not scientific or practical, the more easily might he or his amanuensis *under* him, point out their absurdity. Now, are not many physicians connected with Apothecaries' Hall, and are not medicine chests also fitted up there? The writer, although connected with the Medical Hall, has been in the practice of medicine upwards of thirty years, was a Member of the late Corporation of Surgeons, has held the appointment of domestic surgeon and apothecary to a provincial hospital, studied every branch of medicine under the first teachers; attended the London hospitals, and has, for twenty-five years, been as much, if not more, alive to every thing going on in the medical world than any cotemporary. He has been an industrious but cautious collector and observer of facts; and in practice, and in his writings, he has never allowed interested motives to influence him.

The writer, he says, is also a man of *rhatanian notoriety*!!! He was guilty of the great crime of publishing a treatise on the rhatany root, the medicinal virtues of which he had previously ascertained. One would suppose that this *learned physician* is not aware that the rhatany root is a *natural* product imported from South America, and kept by every chemist. The root is unquestionably a very valuable tonic medicine, and has proved very beneficial in cases of debility, where other tonic drugs had failed. Sir Henry Halford, Dr. Cheston, and many other physicians, have thanked him for having introduced the article into practice; but this noble-minded *physician*, because we have dared to expose the absurdities and the objects of his silly books of sonorous words, would induce his weak readers to suppose that there was something dishonourable in what every man of science and common honesty must applaud. For our own part, we cannot help thinking that the man who gives publicity to a remedy capable of mitigating or curing a numerous class of diseases of his fellow creatures, is entitled to commendation, or even national remuneration. No man can accuse him of having been actuated by any unworthy motive in publishing a treatise on the root: but the writer, says he, is of Joanna Southcotean notoriety!!! Now, if this gentleman considers himself a member of the medical profession, he is the *first* who has ventured to cast any thing like censure on him for having attended Joanna Southcote. She was also attended by Professor Assalini, Dr. Adams, Dr. Sims, Mr. Foster, Mr. Wetherell, and five more medical gentlemen of respectability. His attendance was professional only; with her religious ideas or dreams he did not trouble his mind. Dr. Adams and five others, after examination, left their written certificates of her pregnancy. Now, he never positively stated that she was pregnant. His assertion was, that when certain symptoms occurred, the inference was pregnancy. He stated also, that he was not allowed the proper internal examination.

and also observed that the symptoms he had noticed, did not afford conclusive evidence of pregnancy. The interested supporters of vaccination, and the regular and irregular quacks, whose practices he had exposed, assailed him with a torrent of abuse, which he considered, from so contemptible a quarter, unworthy of notice. The circumstance of their attacking him only after such men as Dr. Adams, Professor Assalini, Mr. Foster, &c. &c. had given a *more positive* opinion, every impartial person will consider complimentary to him, and as such he has really considered their abuse. Dr. Sims, in his letter, describes the distention of the abdomen, as produced by a tumour, of the shape of the uterus, rising above the pubis, which he pronounced a *morbid* enlargement of the uterus. On dissection, there was no appearance either of disease, or of a tumour, and therefore Dr. Sims's opinion was as erroneous as that of any of the medical attendants. Dissection threw no light on the case, and nothing has since transpired to divest it of mystery.

Dr. Johnson must entertain a very high opinion of the abilities or mental endowments of his readers, to suppose that they can be entertained by falsehood, ignorance, and illiberality, or to take scurrility and misrepresentation for refutation and argument. The learned gentleman, however, by dint of importunity, has obtained a list of subscribers to his work!! We have been induced to enter into the above explanation, for, subscribers to a work so miserably deficient in science, and so truly contemptible in every respect, must consist of men incapable of distinguishing flights of fancy, jargon, and declamation, from practical knowledge, science, and criticism, and consequently stand in need of elucidation. Have his subscribers to learn that *medical ignorance* ALWAYS prides itself on its *imaginary* knowledge? In medicine,

" He that has but impudence
" To all things has a just pretence;
" And put among his wants but shame,
" To all the world may lay his claim;
" The *dullest idiots* in disguise,
" Appear more knowing than the wise;
" Illiterate dunces undiscerned,
" Pass on the rabble for the learned;
" And cowards that can d—n and rant,
" Pass muster for the valiant."

Dr. James Johnson boasts of having *friends*. Now if they are capable of forming an estimate of his writings, and were *real* friends to him, they would advise him, as the editors of the Physical and Medical Journal have done, to read more, and write less, and obtain a little practical information of medicine, before he sets up as a medical reviewer.

CATGUT.—The article sold under this name in England, is manufactured at Whitechapel, &c. of the peritoneal covering of the intestines of the sheep; but it is considered inferior to that received from Italy. Dr. M'Cullock ascribes this superiority to the leanness of the Italian sheep. " It is known," says he, " that the membranes of lean animals are stronger than those of fat ones;" and he suggests that the catgut should be manufactured from the Welsh, Highland or South-down breeds, in preference to those which, like the Lincoln, are prone to excessive accumulations of fat.

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 67. To JULY 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

(Continued from page 907.)

IN this country the practice of physic was under no legal restraint till the reign of Henry the Eighth, who, in consequence of the representation of his physician, Dr. Linacre, that "a multitude of *unskilful* and unprincipled persons were exercising the art in the metropolis, to the great injury of the health of his subjects, being dealers in nostrums and charms, men of no education whatever, and but too well skilled in the art of imposing on the credulous," enacted a law "that none should exercise the faculty of physic that were not found duly qualified by the Bishop of London and Dean of St. Paul's. About seven years afterwards, this monarch granted a charter to incorporate certain physicians in one body and perpetual fellowship, with the power of making statutes and ordinances "for the *wholesome* government of the institution, for the *honour* of his kingdom, and the benefit of his subjects residing in the metropolis, and within seven miles thereof," beyond which their jurisdiction does not extend. If the object of the monarch was really the benefit of his subjects, why should its operation have been limited to so small a proportion of his kingdom? The fact is, the real object Dr. Linacre had in view, in obtaining the charter from his royal patient, was the monopoly of the practice; and the health of his Majesty's subjects was only a plausible pretext for the King's granting it.

The Roman Catholic religion was then the religion of the country. That spirit of this religion has continued ever since to influence this learned body, is clear in their by-laws, which they pretend to make for the *wholesome* government of the practice of medicine, their insulting conduct towards the graduates of the Scotch universities, and their total disregard of their duty imposed on them, viz. the suppression of quackery, and the examination of the drugs of the compounders and retailers of medicines within their jurisdiction. The operation of their wholesome by-laws, and their sordid or monkish conduct, proves the truth of the observation lately made in the House of Lords, by the venerable Bishop of Chester, that monkerism is hostile to rational liberty, and to the progress of science.—[*To be continued.*]

INFLAMMATION, SCROFULA, &c.—Dr. Uwins has lately published the following article on Inflammation, &c., from the pen of Dr. G. Gregory, a Lecturer on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, which he prefaces with the observation, "that it is a *most valuable paper*, and that he will be excused for soliciting *particular* attention to the precepts it inculcates."

"In the investigation of the nature and varieties of inflammatory disorders, the attention of pathologists has of late been chiefly attracted to the differences among them, arising from differences in the structure primarily attacked. There can be no question but that this topic of inquiry is one of the highest importance; that it has already

tended to improve, in no ordinary degree, our views, regarding general inflammation, and that a further elucidation of them may confidently be anticipated from a further prosecution of this branch of the subject. At an earlier period of medical science, a high degree of importance was attached, and certainly with some justice, to the varieties among inflammations, arising from differences of *exciting cause*. No one can observe the remarkable differences between syphilitic and common ophthalmia; between the sore throat which arises from cold, and that which is the result of the poison of small pox, of mercury, or of syphilis, without being sensible that this source of difference among inflammations, merits a degree of attention hardly inferior to that which is due to the former. But these, though important, do not appear to me to include all the questions which a consideration of the varieties of inflammation suggests. I have long been struck with the necessity of directing our views to the *predisposing causes* of inflammation, if we would wish to have a correct idea of the pathological distinctions that exist among inflammatory diseases, and, perhaps, I may even add with reference to distinctions in practice."

"There appears to be something not well understood regarding the predisposition to inflammation. It has commonly been remarked, that the state of body most prone to inflammatory disorders, is that of *tone* and *vigor*. It has been described as a state of *extreme* health."

"Dr. Cullen's words are, 'that the inflammatory diathesis chiefly prevails in systems of the greatest vigor.' A full habit of body, a plethoric state of vessels, a tension of fibre, are the terms which have usually been employed to convey an idea of the state of the system, when predisposed to acute inflammation. Nor has this general notion of the predisposition to inflammation been a mere matter of speculation with physicians. It has exerted a most powerful influence over their practice in inflammatory disorders. Supposing the benefit of bloodletting in these cases, to have been originally the discovery of accident, yet to this source must be attributed the prevailing theory, that bloodletting operates by counteracting that state of *tone* and *vigor*, and *tension* of the system which is believed to be so favorable to inflammation. In this country the effect of the principle may be traced still further in the disposition which exists in almost all practitioners, to carry bloodletting, in severe cases, *beyond*, rather than risk being the least *within* the verge of actual necessity. It has led, in like manner, to the complete exclusion of all stimulating medicines, from the treatment of inflammatory diseases, and very often to the prohibition, or at least very scanty supply of nourishing articles of diet, during the period of convalescence. The notion has always been, that the inflammatory diathesis is a state of tone and vigor, and that the safest error, therefore, is that which inclines to keeping the system *weak* and *low*. When we reflect, then, how directly applicable to practice are the views of physicians, regarding the predisposition to inflammation, we cannot, I think, refuse to acknowledge the necessity of satisfying ourselves, that our foundations are secure. We cannot deny that an inquiry into this subject, is at least as equally necessary, as into the structures primarily attacked, a branch of the general doctrine of inflammation, which, as far as I know, has hardly as yet been made, in any degree, subservient to practice. There may be some who will, at once, refer to practice,

as a sufficient proof that such an inquiry is unnecessary. They may urge that the acknowledged success of our treatment of inflammatory diseases, is alone a convincing evidence of the correctness of the general principles upon which we act. But, if any argument can be considered sufficient to supersede the propriety of inquiry, it is surely not this. Every one must have observed but too often, that with all the care and skill which can be exerted, inflammatory diseases prove fatal. This is usually ascribed to one of three causes, either to the original violence of the disorder, which precluded, from the very first, all hope of safety, by the exertion of medical art, or to the lateness of the period, at which active measures were had recourse to; or, lastly, in some few instances, (with more liberality, perhaps, than strict justice) the practitioner is content to take the blame to himself, and to admit that he did not push these resources to their proper extent."

"In such cases, it has probably seldom occurred to the practitioner to inquire, whether there may not have been another cause, to which the fatal event might have been attributed—I mean, the pushing of his depleting measures too far. To place the subject in a more general point of view, it may be asked, whether his want of success may not, occasionally, be attributable to the incorrectness of some one of the principles which regulated his system of treatment. Being myself inclined to think that this may, in certain cases, be the true solution of the question, I cannot acknowledge any force in that objection to the inquiry which I propose to institute into the predisposition to inflammation, which would triumphantly appeal to practice, in proof of the justness of our present views regarding it. I have thought it, on the contrary, a subject well worthy of *accurate* investigation, and in the following observations it shall be my object to throw out a few hints which may tend to solve the question: 'how far we are warranted in giving entire credence to the ideas commonly entertained by pathological writers, regarding the predisposition to inflammation?' From the time that I first entered into practice, I was struck with the circumstance, that almost all the instances of violent acute inflammation, which came under my observation, occurred in persons who had been complaining for some time previous, or who had actually undergone some severe disease, or who were decidedly of a weak habit of body, or among the poorest and worst fed of the population. The most severe case of inflammation of the lungs that I ever saw, occurred in a young man in the last stage of diabetes. It proved fatal in forty-five hours."

"The most severe case of inflammation of the intestines that I ever witnessed, occurred in a child, who, by the accounts of the neighbours, had been miserably fed, or rather half starved, during the previous winter. Every one is aware, how liable scrofulous children are to inflammatory attacks, and the scrofulous habit is *certainly not* one of *strength* or *vigor*. It is equally well ascertained, that in such children, the disposition to inflammation is diminished by sea air, sea bathing and nourishing diet, and whatever else tends to give strength and tone to the system. On no occasion are children more liable to inflammatory attacks of the lungs than after small-pox or measles. Symptoms of watery head frequently supervene upon scarlet fever. In the latter stage of the most weakening disorders, how frequently do we find acute inflammatory

symptoms coming on;—peritonæal inflammation, for instance, towards the close of consumption of the lungs."

"It is unquestionable, that in some cases, inflammation attacks persons apparently in perfect health. In most of these, however, it will be found, on inquiry, that the constitution had given previous evidence of weakness, or that some previous disease had existed, weakening a particular organ or structure. Upon the whole, from the most extensive survey which I have been able to take of inflammatory disorders, I feel persuaded, that the state of body in which cold, and the other exciting causes of internal inflammation, are most likely to operate, is not one of *strength* and *vigor*, but of *weakness*, *irritability*, and *atony*. This conclusion, regarding the nature of the inflammatory diathesis, is more accordant with the simple dictate of reason, than the one which I believe to be chiefly inculcated in medical works. There is something revolting in the idea, that the state which approaches most nearly to perfect health is, at the same time, most favorable to disease."

"It may be worthy of inquiry, whether the predisposition to inflammation is on a par with that of fever, hæmorrhage, spasm, and the different general state of chronic disease. Speaking generally, I presume, there can be no doubt it is, yet there are, probably, peculiarities in each, which may be deserving of separate investigation. On several accounts, however, I am unwilling to enter upon this inquiry at present, and shall reserve it for future discussion."

"The question more immediately before us, is connected closely with a doctrine long maintained, of a distinction of inflammation into active and passive. Whatever foundation there may be for this distinction, it will be probably found to rest on some difference in the predisposition to inflammation; but the loose manner in which these terms have been used, and the imperfect way in which the doctrine has been developed, render it unnecessary to enlarge further on this head."

"It has already been noticed, and it is certainly a very remarkable fact, that inflammation, when it occurs in worn-out and weakened habits, is almost always of a highly aggravated kind. It is curious to observe such severe cases of inflammation commencing in exactly that state to which the body would be reduced by the means which we commonly employ for the relief of inflammation. Most of these cases prove fatal. We usually account for this by saying that the constitution is weakened, and unable to bear up against the necessary depletion. But it may be asked, whether such depletion is really necessary in these cases? Whether there is not a certain habit of body in which, when inflammation occurs, a different system of treatment must be pursued from that which is successfully employed in a different habit? Whether inflammatory affections, under certain highly aggravated circumstances of previous debility, are not *decidedly increased* by the *severe* depleting system usually followed in this country?"

"These are important questions, the answers to which are not so obvious as might have been anticipated from the uniformity of our antiphlogistic treatment. I would reply to them in the following manner:—Without attempting at present to establish any strong line of distinction among inflammations founded upon differences of predisposition, I would urge, as an important principle in pathology, that there are cases

of *internal* inflammation which will not bear the common treatment, and which may be aggravated by it. I am far from saying that the system of treatment proper in these cases is totally different from that which is followed under more common circumstances. Probably the same class of means should be adopted, but they are to be handled differently."

"To distinguish in practice the cases of inflammatory disease in which this caution is requisite, is by no means an easy task. It must be attempted by paying attention, in the first place, to the circumstances of predisposition, and in the second to the symptoms present. When an inflammatory disorder occurs after a long course of scanty or bad food, or when it follows diseases attended with much debility, it may be expected to be of this kind. The pulse, in this form of inflammation, will be found different from that full and strong pulse which characterizes common inflammation. It will be found full but easily compressible; a state of pulse which I have been in the habit of designating by the term *open* pulse. If a vein is freely opened, it will often be noticed that the blood suddenly stops, without any change in the position of the arm. After a bleeding the patient does not express himself lightened, as is usual where venesection is decidedly beneficial, but weakened; and he consequently dreads a repetition of the evacuation. If we can by these means, with any degree of certainty, distinguish in practice the cases in which a vigorous antiphlogistic treatment is required, from those where it is questionable, it will surely be right to do so, were it only to save ourselves from the reflection, that we had unconsciously added to the danger, or accelerated the fate of our patient. If we cannot, I am ready to admit that we had better continue as before, treating all internal inflammation upon the same principle rather than incur the risk of losing one that active treatment might have saved. It is unnecessary for me to express my firm conviction, that by far the largest proportion of inflammatory diseases are to be benefited by early and liberal bleeding, and by that alone. It may perhaps be argued that the views here adopted regarding the predisposition to internal inflammation would go to prove that bleeding is improper in every such case of disease; but this appears to me to be unwarranted. That blood-letting acts by diminishing the tone of the general system, is a theoretical notion which can never be either altogether proved or disapproved. It is sufficient for our purpose to know that experience has shown it to be decidedly efficacious. The practical reflections that result from the remarks already made, do not go to impugn the necessity of blood-letting, but to show on what principle it is to be regulated, to what extent it is to be carried, under what particular circumstances it may prove equivocal or possibly actually prejudicial, and where, therefore, it may be boldly, and where cautiously practised."

"As one corollary from the preceding reasonings, I am aware that it would necessarily follow, that bleeding cannot be trusted to with a view to prevent inflammation: nay, in some cases it might even tend to increase the predisposition to that state of disease. Some persons may consider this as a decisive argument against the doctrine I have attempted to support, but I may anticipate this objection by stating that experience will hardly bear out the views entertained by some authors, regarding the power of bleeding in preventing inflammation."

"It would follow as another corollary, that in cases where blood-letting has produced a decided effect upon the system, and a state of syncope has been induced, stimulant medicines may be administered without the risk so usually dreaded of renewing inflammation. Of the correctness of this principle I have seen sufficient to convince myself; and this Essay will not have been written in vain if it impresses upon those who are young in the profession, the necessity of supporting the system by cordials in severe cases of inflammation, where large and repeated bleedings are indispensable for the removal of the local affection. I again repeat that the object of the present paper is to show, not that bleeding can be dispensed with in cases of inflammation, but that it is an evil, though a necessary one; that therefore not one ounce of blood should be drawn more than the circumstances of the case render imperative upon us; that in all cases, the effects of blood-letting are to be carefully watched, and our practice regulated upon them, and not upon any preconceived notions of the certainty of deriving benefit from such a source; and this more especially in those most formidable of all inflammatory cases where the constitution was previously debilitated to any considerable degree."

If inflammation consisted only in a preternatural distention of blood-vessels, the remarks and inferences of Dr. Gregory would be very judicious; but in inflammation the nerves as well as the blood-vessels of the part are affected. Morbid irritation of nerves always precedes the distention of blood-vessels, the object therefore of bleeding is to reduce the disease to its first stage, viz. that of irritation. The extent to which bleeding should be carried, and the necessity of repetition, must greatly depend on the state of the general health and of the sanguiferous system, and the importance of the part attacked, in the animal economy. When inflammation occurs in a scrofulous habit, the nerves are more affected than the blood-vessels, and after the sanguiferous system is unloaded, so far as it can be safely done, an irritative inflammation continues, on which general bleeding has no salutary effect. The object of treatment in such a case is to subdue the irritation by the exhibition of a sedative, and by exciting irritation in another part of the body by the application of blistering plaster or some other powerful stimulant, and had Doctor Gregory adopted this practice, and proportioned the internal use of sedatives and the external irritation to the obstinacy or extent of the disease, he would have found it to succeed. In an healthy subject, where, if we may be allowed the term, the inflammation is *healthy*, bleeding may be carried to a considerable extent, and frequently repeated with the most decided advantage, without materially reducing the strength of the patient, and by this means, and the use of an aperient, internal acute inflammation may be effectually reduced in a few days. In the country, where inflammation of the lungs and of the viscera of the abdomen is more prevalent than in the metropolis, this practice is generally successful, but in London bleeding cannot be carried to the same extent, and therefore irritation on the surface of the body, or in the extremities, by the plaster of cantharides, sinapism, or pure ammonia, is a necessary auxiliary, and when seated in the lungs, also the exhibition of a sedative, such as the extract of henbane or infusion of the colchicum seeds. The first bleeding so far unloads the system of blood-

vessels as to remove what is termed plethora, and in doing this the inflammation is generally rendered stationary and less painful; a second abstraction after a short interval (about 12 hours) is therefore necessary to produce a sensible impression on the vessels of the affected part. The practice of applying leeches to the skin, immediately over the inflamed viscus, appears to us very absurd, for the skin has no direct communication with the blood-vessels of the inflamed part. This practice is improperly termed *topical* bleeding, for the vessels of the seat of the disease cannot be more unloaded by it than those of the extremities. The blood coming from the general mass, the quantity taken is much too small, and the flow of it too slow, to afford essential relief; indeed, in consequence of the exposure of the part to the air, during the application of the leeches and the bleeding, it is very common to find the inflammatory symptoms in an aggravated state the following day. The abstraction of blood by the operation termed cupping, is never so beneficial as from a vein, although to the same extent, in consequence, perhaps, of the blood being chiefly arterial. The idea that *arterial* blood is more stimulating to the system than venous blood, is erroneous, for the only difference between them is the absence of carbon in the former, and if one is more stimulating than the other, we should think it was the latter, on account of containing carbon. The abstraction of venous blood must afford more relief to the lungs in cases of inflammation of them, their office being chiefly to separate the carbon from the blood. The idea that arterial blood is more stimulating than venous blood, originated in the supposition that the blood attracts oxygen from the atmospheric air during respiration. Instead of attracting oxygen, it is satisfactorily ascertained, that the oxygen of the air conveys carbon from the blood, in the form of carbonic acid gas.

Every surgeon of observation knows that inflammation (as we have above stated) commences in the nerves. After contusion or puncture the part first becomes painful, in a few hours the temperature increases, then ensue distention of blood-vessels and swelling. The swelling advances so as to distend the skin, when the pain generally abates considerably, and the process of suppuration commences. This is the progress of inflammation on the surface of the body, and when it takes place in an internal part it is similar.

Now, what is the rationale of the phenomena of inflammation?

By the irritation of nerves, an impediment is produced to the transmission of the contents of the arteries through the minute vessels which connect them with veins, probably in consequence of spasmodic constriction. The arteries become distended, occasioning slight tumefaction, redness, and pulsating pain. From the increased action of the arteries to overcome the impediment, lymph escapes by the exhaling branches occasioning an increase of the swelling, and in a short time a diminution or cessation of pain, probably in consequence of compression of the irritated nerves. The effused lymph, by the action of the increased heat, is converted into pus. The veins of the part appear to be in an opposite state to the arteries, for the blood which escapes from laceration of the part is arterial. This appears to us to be the rationale of inflammation, and the different species of it depend on the parts which are most affected, as the nerves, blood-vessels, absorbents, &c.; from an

unhealthy state of the latter, probably arises that chronic species which occurs in scrofulous habits.

The system which connects the arterial with the venous system (not satisfactorily demonstrated by anatomists), through which the blood is conveyed from the extreme ramifications of arteries to the veins, is in a chemical, as well as a pathological point of view, a very important one in the animal economy. How the transmission of blood from arteries to veins is effected, is very mysterious. We find during the conveyance, it becomes charged with carbon. Of what process then is this product? We are inclined to believe, as we stated some years ago, that a species of combustion does take place in them, of which the productions of heat and carbon are the consequences. We have for some time been engaged in experiments to elucidate this fact. Fever probably commences in the brain and nerves, and is established by constriction of this connecting system.

That scrofula is a disease of debility, as asserted by Dr. Gregory, we very much doubt, for it occurs in the robust as well as in the debilitated or delicate. Indeed scrofulous enlargement of the *glands of the neck* and of joints, more often occurs in subjects in possession of rude health, than in those in an opposite state. Neither strength nor debility appears to have anything to do with its *production.* When the patient's sanguiferous system is overloaded, we uniformly have recourse to bleeding, and other debilitating treatment, and from this plan we have witnessed the most decidedly beneficial effects. The idea, which has but too generally prevailed, of its being a disease of debility, has led to maltreatment, and to fatal consequences. As we observed in our last number, after correcting the state of the digestive organs, and placing the constitution in a proper state with respect to the sanguiferous system, intestines, &c. the tincture of iodine will succeed in correcting the scrofulous diathesis, and curing its local attacks. Further experience has satisfied us, that this article is as much entitled to the term of anti-scrofulous remedy, as mercury is to that of anti-syphilitic. Its salutary operation is not so speedy, but no less certain.

The observations of Dr. Gregory, on an *excess* of health favoring disease, and of inflammation occurring in debilitated constitutions, are puerile. Health has its limits or standard, and where the vital powers run too high, they are in a morbid state, and, therefore, improperly termed an *excess* of health. As to the fact, that inflammation of the lungs, *following* measles, militates against the idea that inflammation is an excess of health, every medical man *practically* acquainted with the disease, knows that irritation of lungs is an uniform attendant on it; that, in fact, the contagion acts in some degree on the lungs, and as the affection of the skin decreases, that of the lungs often advances.

The Doctor's remarks on the pulse, are equally absurd. The pulse, in cases of internal inflammation, affords no indication as to the necessity of bleeding. When the lungs are inflamed, the pulse often appears to be weak, in consequence of the impediment the loaded state of vessels, and probably the parenchyma of the lungs, occasions to the free transmission of blood through them by the heart. After the abstraction of a few ounces of blood, the pulse indicates plethora, and the blood, which before ran down the skin in a small stream, is thrown out at the distance of half a yard, in as full a stream as the orifice will admit of.

BILIOUS COMPLAINTS.—(*Continued from fol.* 961).—Dr. Ayre, finding the title he gave the first edition of his work, viz. "An Essay on Marasmus," not sufficiently attractive, has availed himself of the fashion of the day in adopting one, for his eight-and-sixpenny book, which is more likely to promote its sale, viz. "*Practical* Observations on the Disorders of the Liver, and the *other* Organs of Digestion, which produce the SEVERAL *forms* and *varieties* of *the* Bilious Complaint." The learned Doctor is of opinion that "the term *bilious* is frequently applied, in an indefinite manner, to disorders of the stomach, in which the functions of the liver are undisturbed; whilst many *important* affections, in the strictest sense bilious, are known only by *names* which, by not corresponding to the phenomena they represent, convey erroneous notions of *their* pathology. In the bilious disorders," says he, "there are *essentially* present, a *functional* change in the liver and a *deficient* and *morbid* secretion of bile, as evidenced by the *colour* and *conditions* of the stools; the symptoms of which constitute the disorder, remaining during the period of the discolouration of the fæces, and only subsiding, and at length disappearing, as the evacuations *progressively* return to their natural state."!! Dissection has satisfactorily proved, that the dark or tar-like colour and offensive odour of the fæces, depend more on a disordered state of the colon than on that of the liver, the contents of the small intestines having no such appearance. Organic disease of the colon is always attended with dark and offensive stools, and an acrid fluid thrown into the rectum uniformly produces motions of the same appearance. The principal part of the fæcal discharge is secreted by the colon. The Doctor states that "two *exceedingly well marked cases of biliary disorder* came lately under his notice, the fatal termination of which in melæna (a discharge of black grumous viscid blood, or bloody fœtid matter from the intestines, by stool or by vomiting), enabled him, by means of dissection, *satisfactorily* to ascertain the relation which the *latter* bears to the former."!! The cases we give in his own words: —"The patient was a young girl, thirteen years of age, who was affected with a *severe* cough, which was worst during the night, attended with an expectoration of thick, but whitish matter. She was much troubled in her breathing, retched occasionally when she coughed, and brought up from the stomach a *tough* sourish phlegm. She had pain in her *left* side, and an increase in her cough when lying on that side; chilliness, followed by fever, and thirst towards evening; profuse perspiration about the head and breast during the night, at the same time that her feet were cold. She had also much pain in her head, stomach, and bowels. The appetite was extremely bad, the pulse quick, the tongue foul and dry during the night, the bowels were *alternately* loose and costive, and the discharge from them *extremely* black and *offensive;* and her strength and flesh so reduced that she was unable to walk without assistance. She had been ill six months, and during the first three of them she had a craving appetite, and the stools were dark and slimy; she was then also drowsy and listless, often complaining of chilliness during the day, sleeping unusually sound in the night, but so reluctant to get up at the usual hour in the morning, as to weep when required to rise. The appetite afterwards failed, whilst the fever and

debility increased: the cough and unnatural appearances in the stools still becoming worse.

"About two months previously to my seeing her, she had a fit which continued half an hour, and during which there was a blackness about her mouth and under her eyes, an appearance often observable afterwards, though in a slighter degree whenever she was worse. She had been under medical treatment, and had lately taken *twenty* drops of a mixture, consisting of equal proportions of the tincture of fox-glove and the sweet spirit of nitre." (!!!) "During the three days I attended her, she continued to part with the same black stools which she had been discharging for some time before, which I found on examination to be excessively offensive, and of a tar-like appearance. The cough became very much abated, but the other symptoms were not much relieved, and her general appearance indicated the most immediate danger. On the fourth day, there was an indistinct tinge of *dark venous* blood, through her motions, and on the following morning I learnt, that more unequivocal signs of it appeared in the evening, and during the following night the motions consisted of little else but dark venous blood, which *poured* from her as she lay. A few hours before she expired, her complexion became *blanched* to a degree of whiteness I never witnessed in any one before."

On opening the body with his *late* friend and colleague, Mr. Dunning, he "found some *old* adhesions of the pleura to the right side; but not the least disease to any part of the lungs. The right auricle of the heart and vessels leading to it were empty. There was a very small quantity of bile on the gall bladder. In making incisions in different parts of the liver, *scarcely* any blood issued from it or from the vessels leading to it. It's *texture* and *bulk were perfectly natural*, but it had that blanched appearance, which might be expected to be seen in an organ that had been emptied of its blood and washed."

We are at a loss to conjecture, on what ground the learned Doctor pronounced the disease of this unfortunate young woman, "an exceedingly well marked case of *biliary* disorder."—We discover no symptom whatever of it, nor do the appearances on dissection justify any such conclusion.—That the poor girl evidently died of intestinal hæmorrhage, is most satisfactorily proved, not only by the evacuation of blood downwards, but also by the pallid or "blanched appearance" of the viscera and of the skin. The Doctor has, for reasons best known to himself, declined to notice the treatment he adopted.—Does not this case afford a lamentable proof, how easily a practitioner can make occurrences bend to preconceived opinions, or to attachment to a particular theory? The Doctor having expressed his admiration of the purging system of Dr. Hamilton, and the chylopoietic function system of Mr. Abernethy, he should have noticed which of the two he had employed in this instance.—If the former, the speedy fatal termination of the case may be accounted for, on *scientific* principles. The unfortunate girl was a patient of the "*Sculcoates* Dispensary, of Hull."

The subject of the other case, was a female of seventy-five years of age, who was also a patient of the Sculcoates Dispensary. "At my first visit," says the learned Doctor, "I learnt that there had been two discharges

from her bowels of a very large quantity of dark blood, preceded and attended by much sickness, and an oppressive weight at the stomach. The appetite had become prostrate, the tongue foul, the pulse feeble but of natural frequency: during the five preceding months, she had been weary and languid, and particularly drowsy, falling asleep at her meals, and even lying down on the floor to sleep; her appetite had been gradually growing worse, and latterly she felt the desire to eat, but was unable to do so on making the attempt; her knees and ankles had ached considerably, her spirits had been depressed, and her memory, vision, and hearing were impaired. Ten days preceding the attack she had felt a load at the pit of her stomach, with frequent nausea. The bowels had been kept regular by *some* pills. During the six hours subsequent to my first seeing her, she parted with seven more discharges, each consisting of upwards of two pints of pure venous blood. The excessive debility, thus induced, rendered her situation utterly hopeless, and during the three days she survived, she had all the symptoms of the *worst* form of typhus."

The Doctor's friend and colleague, Mr. Casson, obligingly attended to examine the body. The same appearances were exhibited in *this* as in the *former* case. The liver was completely emptied of its blood, as well as the right auricle and ventricle of the heart, and the large veins leading to it. The structure of the liver, and all the other organs, notwithstanding her age, appeared healthy. Both the liver and the intestines had a *blanched* appearance. The latter were lined throughout with a dark-coloured slimy matter, similar to what was passed after the hemorrhage stopped. There was some bile in the gall bladder, of a darker colour than natural, and a few inches of the inner part of the duodenum were tinged with the bile, which was probably owing to an escape of some of it from the gall bladder after death. The stomach contained some nearly colourless fluid, and exhibited, in every respect, a natural and healthy appearance.

"In these cases, *if* I mistake not," says the Doctor, "may be discovered the *assemblage* of symptoms, which are *proper* to the *biliary* disorder, so as to warrant the inference, that the hemorrhage in them was the *mere effect* of the disorder."!!! "I say in these cases, for though the mucous lining of the bowels in them was free from all morbid appearances, yet *I* am satisfied that a hemorrhage *may* take place from it, since *my friend* Dr. Armstrong informs me, that he has met with some cases where large quantities of blood had been thus lost, and where, after death, the mucous membrance of the bowels was found in some places highly injected."

Surely this is too contemptible for animadversion. Hemorrhage from the internal surface of the intestinal canal, the effect of disordered function of the liver, although on dissection that viscus was free from any organic disease!!! Distention of veins of the abdominal viscera is always more or less attendant on organic disease of the liver, in consequence of the *mechanical* obstruction it occasions to the return of blood from them to the heart, but in the preceding cases, the liver was not organically affected, and was in as healthy a state as any other viscus. In the latter case, as in the former, the Doctor has not condescended to acquaint his readers with the *scientific* treatment he adopted to restore the poor old

woman to health. If the medical treatment was founded on his idea of the case being "an *exceedingly well marked* one of biliary disorder," we suspect it was not very judicious;—but the "*functional* disorder of the liver," the learned Doctor is of opinion, "has on *young* and on *old* women, *opposite* effects. When the menstrual secretion should commence it commonly prevents it, producing the complaint, known by the name of green sickness; but when it attacks the female at the time when the menstruation should cease, it leads to an *excess* of the secretion, and sometimes to disease of the uterus."!!! In compassion to his readers, the Doctor has given a recapitulation of *his* pathology of *the bilious* disorder, of which the following is a copy:

"I. That this disorder consists in a *deranged* and *imperfect* action in the secretory function of the liver, and a consequent *deficient* and *unhealthy* secretion of bile, as is manifested by the alvine discharges not having that colour, which is *always* imparted to them by it, when it is secreted in a healthy state, and in the proper quantity.

"II. That this disorder in the function of the liver, sometimes arises from a disorder commencing in the stomach; for the function of digestion is performed by organs, the actions of which, by means of a nervous union established among them for the purpose, are accordant and co-operative; the *healthful* action of the liver in fact *depending* upon a stimulus *imparted to it* by the *stomach*, in obedience to this law."!!!

"III. That, therefore, in certain deranged states of the stomach, the *precise* nature of which is *unknown*, there is either a *morbid* or an *imperfect* stimulus given to the liver, by which its secretory function is impeded, and a bilious fluid produced, that is *deficient* in its quantity, and commonly of a *morbid* quality.

"IV. That, as an interruption in the accustomed actions of a *secreting* organ occasions a congestion of its vessels, the *diminished* secretion of the bile gives rise to a congestive state of the *vena portarum* and its branches, and to a similar state in those organs, the venous system of which is associated with that of the liver."!!

"V. That in *consequence of those efforts which nature makes to free* HERSELF *from disorder*, this congestive state is sometimes *spontaneously* removed by a copious secretion of bile, constituting the *bilious* diarrhœa, or the second stage of the cholera morbus; and that in other cases its force is temporarily abated by an *hemorrhoidal* flux, or by the discharge of blood from the loaded *extremities* of the vena portarum; occasioning in this latter case, and when in small quantities, the black and tar-like, and often putrid and fœtid stools, but when in excess, the idiopathic hæmatemesis or melæna."!!

"VI. That whilst this congestive state of the liver, in its *acute* form, produces an assemblage of symptoms, of which the *first* are those of *collapse*, and the *second* those of *excitement*, resembling in *many points* an inflammatory affection of that organ, it differs essentially from that state in many important particulars. For in the acute inflammation of the liver, it is the *arterial* action of the organ that is excited, and the congestion (if the expression be allowable) is *arterial*;" !!! "the secretory function of the organ, from its being carried on by a *distinct* class of vessels, partaking only secondarily and partially in its effects; whilst in the venous congestion of the liver, consequent upon an interruption

in its secretory action, the *arterial system* of the liver is necessarily but little affected, the congestive state in that organ being in all probability chiefly limited to the vena portarum and its branches."!!!

"VII. And lastly, that the indications for the removal of these morbid but dissimilar states, will, therefore, necessarily be different. The inflammation in the liver will demand the same treatment which is applicable to inflammation in other parts of the body, for it differs in nothing from that state in them, either in its origin or nature; whereas, in the purely functional disorder of that organ, from its having nothing in common with inflammation, it will not, as *I* have repeatedly found, be benefited by bleeding alone, or by blistering, and the antiphlogistic regimen; but the principal object to be attained, will consist in a renewal of the *healthy* secretory action of the liver, as it is from the interruption of this, that the congestive state arises, with its immediate train of painful symptoms."!!!

The learned Doctor seems to be determined to out-Solomon that celebrated word-monger, *Dr.* James Johnson, the *learned* editor of the Chiro-Medical Journal. There is one observation, however, the learned Doctor has made, which is, unfortunately for invalids, but too true, viz. "The doctrine of the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, is no longer followed in the treatment of disease." Poor Dame Nature, to the indications of whom the ancient physicians paid attention, has, according to some modern systems, nothing to do with disease!!—The powers of this Dame are solely dependent on the liver.—The seat of life is, in fact, in the liver. —This organ is the source of health and of disease. The actions of the heart, stomach, bowels, and indeed, the brain itself (in which that narrow-minded professor, Dr. Cullen, supposed the primary moving power of the body to reside) all depend on the liver!!! In fact, the liver, although the most indolent viscus in the body, is, in the opinion of the "Quackers" of the systems of Abernethy and Hamilton, the *primum mobile* of the animal machine!! The learned Doctor Ayre, however, admits "that he met with a case of palsy of one side of the body, which he was at a loss to decide whether or not it derived its *origin* from the biliary derangement." The Doctor, like other book-makers, brings forward several cases of disease to prove the correctness of his hepatic theory or imaginations, which, in our humble opinion, afford stronger evidence of *cerebral* debility than of *hepatic* derangement.

Now will any medical man say that the circumstance of such a contemptible work going through an edition however small, is not a melancholy proof of the wretched state of medical science, and that the editors of the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, in puffing off such contemptible productions as those of Dr. Ayre and *Dr.* James Johnson, do not contribute greatly to render medicine contemptible in the opinion of men of discernment, and instead of promoting its progress for the benefit of mankind, do they not thereby contribute to check its progress, or rather to place it in a retrograde state?—Indeed, Dr. Duncan, jun., we hope, in future, you will not disgrace your pages by encomiums on contemptible productions, or by encouraging any thing in the shape of quackery.

Surgeon Hare prefaces his "View of the Structure, Functions, and Disorders of the Stomach, *and* Alimentary Organs of the Human

Body," with the admission that he writes for the information of the public, as well as for *members of the profession;* and, therefore, "he has attempted to set forth *his* ideas in language as little technical as the nature of his subject would admit." The learned gentleman divides "his subject" into no less than twenty-six chapters, and has also given two plates to explain the different forms of the ultimate fibre of a muscle, and of cellular tissue, termination of muscles into tendinous fibre, the ultimate *structure* of a *minute* parasitic fungus, &c. &c.; by which it *clearly* appears, (if every fibre, like the blood, as stated by Hunter, and *confirmed* by Mr. Abernethy, possesses an independent life), that the trunk of man is a mere collection of worms! A fine subject for the contemplation of proud man!

Mr. Hare commences his dissertation with remarks on the stomach. "This organ," says he, "is the *great regulator* of the *whole* animal machine, which, unoffended, it nourishes, if outraged, it disorders." The nerves, he says, "are no more than extensions of the *actual substance* of the brain."!! Had the author examined the *ultimate* fibre of all the nerves, he would have found some to differ greatly from the "cerebral tissue," or mass. In the course of his practice, this minute investigator has collected several *important* facts, which, in his opinion, justify the making of a book. He has ascertained, to *his own* satisfaction, that so much mercury may be conveyed from a salivated patient to a person near to him, by means of the vapour arising from the saliva, as to excite salivation!! That our readers may not suppose we have misunderstood the learned gentleman's "ideas," we give the extraordinary case in his own words.

"A gentleman in perfectly good health, sat one hour by the side of another, who was under the full power of a mercurial ptyalism, and unable to talk, amusing him with a lesson in botany. In the evening of the same day, he perceived some increase of salivary secretion, but made no account of it. In the night, however, it became very troublesome, and increased so rapidly, accompanied by swellings of the tonsil glands, and general irritation of the mouth, which previously were not in the least degree disordered, that he was confined to the house a full week; at the end of which time, the inconvenience had not altogether subsided. The taste of mercury had been constantly present; and the impregnation of its vapour could not more successfully have been effected through any known means by design, than it was by this transfer through ptyalism from one individual to another. Mercury, therefore, must have been held in solution by the saliva, probably in the form of *oxide;* for the salivary effluvia could not have communicated the actual taste of the metal without an admixture of its volatile particles."!!!

Another fact, of no less importance to dentists, and puzzling to chemical philosophers, is, that he "has *known* a galvanic shock to be produced in consequence of filling a hollow tooth in the upper jaw, and one in the lower nearly opposite to it, with tinfoil." As this case is highly interesting to those gay ladies who are desirous to conceal the effects of time, by preserving their *natural* teeth in their gums as long as the sockets will retain them, we shall also give the particulars of it in the author's own words.

"Where a faulty tooth in the upper jaw had been stopped from its

side with tinfoil, the interstice between it and the adjoining tooth being quite inconsiderable, while the upper surface of a tooth not immediately beneath it in the lower jaw was stopped with the same metal, I have known a galvanic shock regularly communicated by the saliva from one tooth to the other, whenever, by any accidental movement of the mouth, they came within a certain distance of each other, probably about half an inch."

The author also "knows that an *earthy* residuum succeeds the *putrefactive* fermentation of animal matter;" dust to dust! and he therefore "conceives that the fermentation effected, or at least promoted *upon* animal food in the stomach, by saliva from the mouth and *from the pancreas*, and whereby it is resolved into *new elements*, may cause an undue degree of earthy matter to be formed where animal food is used too largely."!!! It is somewhat extraordinary, that this luminous idea never struck the able investigators of the causes of earthy concretions in the human body, viz. Drs. Proud and Marcet. Unfortunately for the author's philosophical theory, the secretion of the pancreas is not emptied into the stomach; and another unfortunate *fact* is, the animal matter taken into the stomach is not "resolved into new *elements*" by the saliva, the conversion into chyme being effected by a fluid secreted by the stomach, termed the gastric juice, at least so say the most able physiologists of the present times. The facts Mr. Hare has collected, have convinced him that "the formation of calculi, of *all* descriptions, are especially promoted by *such habits* of body and habits of life as favour a *morbid* fermentation in the stomach, and above all, by the *acidifying* qualities of fermented liquors and acescent food; and that the *circulating mass may thus become charged* with an *undue* proportion of *earthy* matter, which, through the *medium* of secernment, is *detained* in the reservoir of that particular gland, whose secretion possesses the greatest chemical affinity for it."!! This is indeed a wonderful discovery in *animal* chemistry; the common meaning of which is, in plain language, calculous complaints are the consequences of indigestion. The idea that putrefactive fermentation takes place in the stomach of a living person is, most able chemist, that species of fancy which is vulgarly termed, stark nonsense.

Of the real value of the important *facts* this able chemist and physiologist has collected, the following quotations will enable our readers to form an opinion.

"Carbonic acid is active in the animal economy, as active in the vegetable economy, and *mineralises* half the *substance* of the *solid* globe."!!

"Animals receive nutriment and increase of bulk through absorbed fluids, derived from the *fermentation* of animal, vegetable, and MINERAL substances." The learned gentleman, after referring the production of calculi to *fermentation* of aliment in the stomach, asserts that the nourishment of the body is dependent on the fermentation of the aliment taken into the stomach."!!!

"The spleen *effects* a *process* in the blood, which prepares it for assisting the secretion of bile, and chiefly in consideration of its contributing *very largely to the formation of* that *hybrid* blood-vessel of the liver, called the *vena portæ*."!! "To his humble apprehension the

spleen appears *altogether* subservient to the liver, and that a *vast deal of mystery* and perplexity seems to have been attached to its office, which is derogatory to the general simplicity of *natural* operations throughout the animal economy."!!

"Eggs never assimilate with the contents of a disordered stomach, but *partly coagulate and form* VARIOUS crudities, and *partly generate a noxious vapour*, which, under its *real* character of sulphuretted hydrogen, rises from the stomach into the mouth. *The colouring material of the yolk of an egg is sulphur,"!!!* "which, combining with the *watery* contents of the stomach, forms the vapour alluded to."!!! Most excellent chemist, and accurate dreamer! hadst thou lived in the time of Paracelsus, thou wouldst indeed have been deemed a phenomenon in the medical world. The colouring matter of the yolk of an egg produced by sulphur, and *carburetted* hydrogen by its mixing with watery matter in the stomach!! This is indeed an era of chemical discoveries.

"On the sudden accession of food, the *stomach* and *intestines* take on a *convulsive* action. This *convulsive* action is *transmitted* by the nervous system to the brain, causing those *staggerings* and *violent* affections of the brain by which the existence of the animal is often terminated." This is indeed an admirable solution of the phenomena of *staggering*. The idea entertained by old women in general, that the brain is subject to ague or shaking, is then correct. The convulsive or peristaltic motion of the intestines is conveyed by the nerves to the brain."!!!

"It is idle to say that the *physical* cause of sea-sickness is *altogether mental."!!*

"I regard the attendant affections of the head as *purely sympathetic*, from the disturbance of the alimentary organs."!! "There is another medium through which bile may find its way into the stomach, in a less *genuine* form, namely, from *its exhalant vessels*, after having been received into the general volume of blood."!!

"Animal food, for which we have in general a strong propensity, has an *alkalescent* tendency, by which *undue* fermentation is checked; putrefaction is the last stage of the fermenting process, and if the bile were not of an *anti-putrescent* as well as a *stimulating* quality, the *crude* material could not be separated from the nutritious, without offence to the system, in its passage through the intestinal canal."!

"The flatulent dropsy, which also is called *tympanites*, proceeds from a far more serious cause; for instance, the *mechanical compression* of tumours and the evolution of air from *mortification* of the bowels."!!!

"The *old* physicians had much to say about *rawness and soreness* of the stomach, by which terms they *clearly* meant to express those uneasy sensations which result from a *morbid* fermentation of its *unwholesome* contents. They also talked of the *transfer* of *particular vapours* from the stomach to the *ventricles* of the brain, and although a *love* of innovation, as well as an *insufficiency* of research, may have caused *their* ideas to be treated with levity in recent times, they will be *found*, upon *mature* deliberation, to have been *founded* on the evidence of REASON and EXPERIENCE."!!!

That "the *abuse* of fermented liquors causes an *actual* transfer of

their *volatile* matter from the stomach to the brain," the author gives the two following amusing cases, which *he* conceives to be "*striking evidences* of the fact."

"A healthy man, about thirty years of age, having fallen down *from intoxication*, and died within three hours *after* the accident, without any sufficiently *characterized* symptoms of an injured *head*, besides insensibility and stupor, his *remains* were attentively examined on the following morning, by Mr. White, of the Westminster Hospital, with myself and others; when the skull presented no marks of violence, and the blood-vessels no extraordinary degree of turgescence. The substance of the brain, which had the most healthy appearance imaginable, was progressively separated in the common way without any unusual occurrence. On arriving at the *ventricles*, however, a strong smell of *gin* was emitted; and they contained a preternatural, though not very large, quantity of fluid, which had *powerfully the same smell*. Our next object of examination was the stomach, and this was found to contain a *considerable* quantity of undiluted *gin*. By intelligence afterwards gained, it appeared that the man had agreed with his fellow-labourers, in an hour of idleness, to drink an entire quart of gin for a wager. He accordingly swallowed that quantity at a single effort, from a porter-pot, and fell within a quarter of an hour afterwards; when he was conveyed to the Westminster Hospital. It is remarkable that the corpse *never stiffened previous* to interment; and the countenance was rather that of a person sleeping than dead.

"I was requested by some medical students to demonstrate the anatomy of the brain upon a subject who had died on the day before; and as to the cause of whose death, no particulars whatever were known. The process went on without any unusual circumstances until the ventricles were opened, when I was struck by the emission of a strong smell of asafœtida. Unwilling to trust my own perception, I asked the three gentlemen present, if they perceived any remarkable odour; when, with *one* voice, they said a powerful smell of asafœtida was emitted the moment the ventricles were opened. Inquiries were now made, as to the latest medicines which had been administered; when it appeared that tincture of asafœtida had constituted a considerable part of them."

Facts, it is said, are stubborn things, but not so in medicine, for some writers find them so pliable as to admit of being bent, with great facility, to a preconceived theory. If gin, or the essential oil of the juniper, in which its odour resides, was really in the ventricles of the brain, we hope we may be allowed to follow the example of a great monarch, who was astonished on finding an apple in a dumpling without a seam how it came there! The only channel is the very circuitous one, the circulation. Now, supposing the essential oil or alcohol of the gin were conveyed to the blood by the absorbents of the stomach, would not either of them excite considerable irritation in the vessels through which it passed, and is it likely that the membranous lining of the ventricles of the brain would separate it from the blood? If intoxication be produced by the volatile parts of liquors acting on the membrane lining the ventricles, how are we to account for its effects continuing only a few hours? Are we to suppose that the volatile parts are re-absorbed and

separated from the blood by the kidneys, liver, or any other organ? The urine of people who indulge in the use of gin, emits an odour resembling that of violets instead of gin, nor does the urine contain any thing like the essential oil of juniper; and it is also a fact, that neither the blood nor the urine of a person whose beverage consists chiefly of a potent spirit, affords on distillation any thing like alcohol.

Now, the effect gin produces on the brain, is also occasioned by a small quantity of opium, which contains neither an essential oil nor a stimulating volatile matter. The *fact* is, the inebriating effects of spirituous liquors and other articles, are the consequences of nervous excitement, with an increased afflux of blood to the brain, and it is worthy of remark, that when the brain is not disturbed by an excess of wine or spirit, the abuse is not followed by a disordered state of the stomach, proving that, although the first impression was on the stomach, the disordered state of the organ which follows, is the effect of a disturbed brain. Hence many people, who have diminished the sympathy between the stomach and brain by a *regular* system of taking vinous or spirituous liquors in excess, seldom suffer from it, whilst those who have not been accustomed to it, suffer for many days from indigestion after an excess. "Carbonic acid and *low temperature* of cyder have the property, in *many* cases, of *overcoming the less powerful* acid of the *watery* contents of the stomach."! The acid which forms in the stomach is much more powerful than that of cyder or of fixed air (carbonic acid). The idea of overcoming one acid by another, is, in chemistry, a new one. Cyder, or any other weak acid, taken *cold*, will abate the sensation termed heartburn (produced by an acid), but it is the low temperature at which it is taken that affords relief, by diminishing the sensibility of the nerves of the stomach, for as soon as it becomes of the same temperature as the body, the pain returns, generally in a greater degree.

Speaking of gout, the learned Surgeon observes, "the *sudden expulsion* of inflammation from *the foot*, is known to produce *spasmodic* affections of the stomach, and not unfrequently to determine a flow of blood to the head, which, if not immediately fatal, shortly becomes so." This is the first time we have heard of the *expulsion* of inflammation. We have heard of drawing or coaxing it out by tractors, and of *repelling* it, but how it is to be *expelled* or driven out, we cannot form any idea. If it be *expelled*, how can it produce spasms or determination to the head?

The foregoing specimens of Mr. Hare's scientific attainments and reasoning, will enable our readers to form an opinion of the value of the contents of his book. We took it up, greatly prepossessed in its favor, because it was written by a Member of the College of Surgeons, and after going over it, we opened it at random for the purpose of giving extracts from the pages which were exposed, instead of searching for the most absurd passages or observations.—This gentleman, like *Dr. James Johnson*, modestly states, that he writes for the information of the medical profession!! What an insult is such an assertion to the Members of the Profession!! Strange to say, we shall not be surprised to see a puffing account of this most miserable production, in some Medical Journal. Let us, however, hope that Mr. Hare, instead

of insulting the profession, has published his book, for the *amusement* of medical men, labouring under that distressing disease, termed hypochondriasis. To such it cannot fail to prove highly amusing, and to divert the mind from medicine, which, in the cure of the malady, is a great object to accomplish.

If, Mr. Hare, *Dr.* Ayre, of Hull, *Dr.* James Johnson, (editor of a *Medico chirurgical* Journal!!) and *Dr.* Grattan, of Dublin, were to put their heads together, we really think they might compose a "*medical farce*," for which the proprietors of a provincial theatre might be induced to remunerate them handsomely. If we have not formed a correct idea of their theatrical conceptions, we beg to suggest to them, a Dissertation on Petticoats, for which there is, at this time, a very excellent opening. The readers of, or rather *subscribers* to, the Medico-chirurgical Journal, might, by dint of importunity, become purchasers of the work; and the *readers* probably be induced to adopt the form of petticoat they may recommend.

Dr. Philip has published a nine shilling book, the principal objects of which, he says, "are to give arrangement to the *various* affections which have been termed *nervous* and *bilious*, to ascertain the *nature* of the disease on which they depend, to trace the causes which determine them to assume the various forms in which they are presented, and to determine the appropriate treatment of each of these forms." In the composition of his book, he boasts of not having had recourse to the works of others; "it cannot, therefore," says he, "be regarded as an attempt to present to the reader, the sum of our knowledge on the subject. I offer it *simply* as the result of *my* observations, and the reflections suggested by them during a space of twenty-five years."

The Doctor has ascertained the fact, which he considers a *remarkable* one, "that there is hardly any disease less understood than that which is most *frequently* presented to us, and known under the *vague* denominations of *bilious*, *nervous* and *stomach complaints*, which seems the more extraordinary, because there is *none* of *greater* importance, whether we regard its variety, its consequences, or its connexion with *other* diseases."

This, he believes, arises from two circumstances. "The first relates to the *nature* of the disease itself. In its early stages, in which *other fatal* diseases sometimes give us the opportunity of examining the organs chiefly affected, the cause of derangement is in parts too minute for observation, and, before its fatal termination, it is so changed, that the inspection of those who fall a sacrifice to it, throws little light on its origin. Who, for example," says he, "can learn from the appearance in the body of a drunkard, what particular state of the parts concerned caused the symptoms of indigestion, which preceded the indurated liver and abdomen?" The second circumstance to which he alludes, relates to the *causes* of the disease. "We know," observes the Doctor, "that the *digestive power of the* STOMACH depends on a fluid secreted *in it*, and, *consequently*, that a *deranged state of this fluid* MUST BE the *cause* of the *symptoms* of indigestion, but we can make little *practical* use of this knowledge, unless we know the *immediate* causes of its derangement, and the *particular manner* in which the derangement operates, in producing the symptoms of the disease."

These, the Doctor thinks, are the questions which chiefly interest the *physician*, and, as far as he knows, no attempt has been made to answer them!!

The immediate effect of an excess of a spirituous or vinous liquor on the stomach, is a morbid degree of irritation, and when glands are in this state, their secretions are more or less unhealthy. The secondary effect of the stimulants is debility or relaxation, and in this state, the secretion is in diminished quantity and also unhealthy. The gastric juice being unequal to digestion, fermentation ensues, with its products, carbonic acid gas, acidity, &c.

The observant Doctor fancies, that, during his long practice, he has discovered *three stages* of the disease termed indigestion, which he thinks of great importance, as each stage requires very different medical and dietetic treatment.

During the first stage, the Doctor supposes that the stomach and bowels are in a state of debility, and, therefore, such medicines are to be administered, "which tend to restore them to tone." In the second stage, this mode of treatment is injurious, for the Doctor has discovered, by the beneficial effects of leeches, blisters, &c., the injurious effects of tonic medicines, and the pain produced by pressure, that the stomach is in a state of inflammatory excitement, which advances to actual inflammation. Of the tenderness of the parts, the Doctor observes, the patient is not aware, till it is *pointed* out by the *physician*. "This symptom," says he, "*never* exists long, and to any *considerable* degree, without the pulse becoming *hard;* and it often, at the same time, becomes *rather* more frequent than in health." On the *hardness* of the pulse, the *proper* treatment depends. In the first stage, tenderness may exist, "but," says the Doctor, "I considered the *hard* pulse as dividing the disease in *two stages*." Instead of being chilly, as in the first stage, the patient now experiences "fits of heat, and the hands and feet, instead of being uniformly cold, often *burn*, particularly during the first part of the night, while, at other times, they are more obstinately cold. The thirst, also, often increases, and sometimes there is a tendency to partial sweats, in the morning, especially if the patient lie longer than usual." "This state of inflammatory excitement," the Doctor supposes, "cannot long continue without change of the structure" of the parts affected. The symptoms, therefore, of the second stage, "are the immediate forerunners of *organic disease*, constituting the *third stage* of indigestion."

The observant Doctor has, in his own opinion, ascertained the fact, "that the organic affection rarely takes place in the original seat of the disease, but in *other* organs with which the stomach sympathizes," and this discovery, he conceives of the *greatest importance* in the treatment. "The sympathetic structural derangement sometimes takes place in the liver, sometimes in the spleen, sometimes in the mesenteric glands, sometimes the lower bowels, sometimes the lungs, sometimes the brain, &c. &c."!!!

"The second stage, however," says the Doctor, "so far partakes of its *original nature*, that were we to regulate the treatment, by an attention to *inflammatory* symptoms alone, the powers of the system would soon sink under it. The more powerful anti-inflammatory mea-

sures, therefore, a very low diet, general blood-letting, &c. &c., are *rarely* proper; unless the inflammatory symptoms, as sometimes happens, increase to those of *active inflammation*. The disease is then of a *different nature*, and *must be treated* on the same principles, although with more than usual caution, as other inflammations. The less stimulating of the tonic means employed in the first stage, on the other hand, are still indicated; the extent to which the one or the other set of means should be carried, being regulated by the greater or less degree of the inflammatory tendency."!!!

The natural progress of this very prevalent disease, indigestion, indeed, according to the Doctor's description of it, universal disease, for it seems to embrace nearly if not *all* the diseases, acute and chronic, which assail poor humanity, is from debility to inflammatory action, and from it to organic disease. Beyond this the Doctor could not follow it, for the next stage is ulceration, which belongs to surgery, with which he does not pretend to be acquainted. Now, of all divisions of diseases into stages, which have been published, this is the most ridiculous.

A disease of debility, advancing naturally to an opposite state!! In the first stage there is a deficiency of energy; and, in the second stage, an increase of energy!!! If this be the natural progress of the disease, the exhibition of stomachics, as bark, iron, cardamom seeds, &c. during the first stage, as recommended by the observant Doctor, must necessarily prove highly injurious, inasmuch as they tend to accelerate the second stage. The object therefore of the practitioner, or of the *physician*, (for the Doctor supposes no person has any thing to do with diseases but a physician!!) is to watch the progress of the disease, and when it is entering on the second stage, to stop it's progress, for, according to his doctrine, or his pretended facts, the stomach must then be in a state of health.

This progress of indigestion is very different to other diseases of debility. The debility does not increase, it *naturally* advances to health, but the *progress* being *morbid*, we suppose, it continues till it arrives as far above the standard of health as the first stage was below it! After attacking the stomach in these two extremes, the disease fixes in another organ, to establish its *third* stage!!! Now, if the organic disease which takes place in another viscus was from sympathy, one would expect it would uniformly occur in that viscus which sympathizes in the greatest degree with the seat of the primary disease, viz. the stomach. The fact is, organic disease or structural disorganization is seldom the consequence of an *acute* affection. It advances slowly, and when arrived to its last stage, a determination of blood and nervous fluid to it takes place, in consequence of morbid irritation or the ulcerative process, when an irritative disorder of the stomach or any other part generally terminates. We have known diseased joints become quiet on disease taking place in the uterus and mammary glands, and we have also known diseases of the extremities cease to become painful on structural disease of the stomach taking place, and what is still more extraordinary, according to Dr. Philip's theory, a formidable disease of a knee to gradually diminish as the organic disease of the stomach advanced, and *vice versa*. Dr. Philip, like our worthy city aldermen, thinks the stomach is

the only organ that merits attention. He has discovered that it is situated in *the centre* of the body, and he therefore concludes that it must sympathize with all the organs around it. Like the sun in the centre of the planetary system, distributing the animating principle in every direction, so does the stomach both its benign and malignant influence to every part of the body, according to its condition!!! Van Helmont, who was also a man of great powers of fancy, attributed digestion to the energy of his archæus, which he supposed to reside in the stomach, and he declared it to be the *grand regulator* of the animal machine. The celebrated Stahl extended its influence, without however fixing its place of residence in any particular part. That Dr. Philip should fix the power in the stomach after his experiments on rabbits, the results of which proved, to *his* satisfaction, that the stomach receives the power of performing its office in the animal œconomy from the brain, by means of a branch of the eighth pair of nerves, is to us extraordinary, but the Doctor has taken up the ideas of Mr. Abernethy, and like many others, cannot carry his views beyond the chylo-poietic organs.

In compliment to *Dr.* James Johnson, by whom his book is to be *scientifically* reviewed, the Doctor has had the politeness to add "that the *liver* is the *first* organ which partakes of the disease of the alimentary canal. In the first stage," says he, "we have seen that its functions is *generally* deranged at an early period, and in the second, that the *inflammatory tendency* of the *pylorus extends to it.*" We hope *Dr.* James Johnson will evince his gratitude, in his peculiar theatrical jargonic style for this very satisfactory explanation of his "functional lesion of the liver." How the *inflammatory tendency extends to the liver, Dr.* James Johnson will, no doubt, explain to the perfect satisfaction of his *enlightened* and *extra-scientific* readers. Dr. P. has, however, attempted to improve the Abernethian system by dividing indigestion into three stages!! Now the fact is, indigestion, as we have observed in a late number, is the consequence of opposite states of the stomach, and the two species which we have noticed as arising from debility or diminished excitement, and from increased excitement and temperature, he has mistaken for different stages of the complaint. As to organic disease being the *third* stage of indigestion, every surgeon could tell him that indigestion is more frequently the consequence of organic disease than otherwise, and that organic disease of the pylorus will advance nearly to suppuration before any symptom of indigestion appears. The stomach, instead of being *always primarily* affected in cases of chronic disease, is generally sympathetically disturbed; indeed, we doubt much if indigestion be ever a *primary* malady. At any rate, the practitioner, whether with or without a diploma, who has profited by his long experience, will, in prescribing medicine, &c. look to the general health of the patient. He will regulate his treatment by the state of the sanguiferous and nervous systems, mode of living and peculiarity of constitution. Every *experienced* practitioner, who follows his profession as a man of science, attending to *results*, and collecting facts as they really occur, without being influenced by a preconceived hypothesis or theory, must be aware that it is impossible to lay down a mode of treatment applicable to all cases of indigestion. We not only meet with patients with whom the usual stomachic medicines and certain articles of diet disagree, but who

absolutely require a great proportion of animal food and spirituous liquors to keep up the strength of their bodies, or to preserve life. Mr. Abernethy asserts, that no person should take more than four or five ounces of meat daily. To prove the absurdity of such restriction, may be noticed the case of a man who ate daily from twelve to fifteen pounds of meat, and who declared he should sink, if he were confined to four or five pounds a day. The Doctor's observations on bitters, &c. in the first stage, and a solution of nitre in the second, may be admired by some, but in the mind of an experienced apothecary they can excite only a feeling of contempt.

The most ludicrous part of Dr. Philip's discovery of facts, is the roving disposition of the disease, *indigestion*, in its second stage. It sometimes visits the liver, sometimes the spleen, sometimes the lungs, &c. &c. He also fancies that he can discriminate the *sympathetic* consumption of the lungs from *primary* consumption. In the sympathetic, however, structural disease takes place, which terminates life, and he admits that the lungs exhibit the same appearance on dissection, in both cases!! If the patient was affected with symptoms of indigestion, as flatulence, &c. *previously* to the attack of the lungs, then the complaint of the lungs is, in the Doctor's opinion, clearly sympathetic, and on removing the primary disease it will cease.

We presume, no practitioner of experience and observation would, in case of a patient afflicted with all the symptoms of incipient consumption of the lungs, direct his attention entirely to the state of the stomach, because the patient had been affected with symptoms of indigestion. If he should, the disease of the lungs would assuredly, under such treatment, rapidly advance to an incurable extent. The fact is, the disease of the lungs the Doctor terms sympathetic consumption, is dependent on the same cause as the affection of the stomach, viz. a certain unhealthy state of the system, and, as the pulmonary affection advances, that of the stomach decreases. The disease of the lungs, in consequence of their importance in the animal economy, the little power they possess of repairing injury, and their peculiar structure, with the man of experience will be the primary consideration.

It is somewhat remarkable that on the disease of the lungs being considerably relieved or nearly cured, the symptoms of indigestion generally return, and the re-appearance of a prior affection, or old complaint, during an acute disease, is generally a very favourable omen, and therefore no attempts to cure it should be made till the acute disease has entirely subsided. This fact is certainly not favourable to Doctor Philip's doctrines.

The Abernethian system is not applicable to pulmonary consumption. Indeed we have no hesitation in saying, that we have known many consumptive patients sacrificed to it.

In speaking of the means of distinguishing real pus from mucus of a purulent appearance, Dr. Philip observes, "Whether the matter *I* call pus-like be pus or not, is not the question; it is that to which the observations which *I* am about to lay before the reader apply. The only criteria," says he, "which *I* have found necessary in practice, are its pus-like appearance, and its sinking, when so agitated in water as to separate it from the tough mucus with which it is mixed." This

method of separating pus, brought up with mucus from the lungs, or of ascertaining if pus be really mixed with the mucus, we have employed many years, and was first recommended by us, in the "Medical Guide," twelve years ago. The Doctor asserts, "it is of comparatively little consequence whether what we see be pus or not."!!! Is it not then, most experienced and observant Doctor, of no consequence to ascertain if the disease be merely morbid irritation, or chronic inflammation of the membranous lining of the bronchial ramifications, or if suppuration has taken place in the substance of the lungs? Is it not of consequence to distinguish a curable from an incurable disease?

We shall conclude our notice of Dr. Philip's book with a few of his valuable facts; for, like Surgeon Hare, he has made many brilliant discoveries during his long practice.

"An emetic, while it remains on the stomach, destroys the appetite, and occasions nausea."!! This important fact we suspect the Doctor ascertained, with the assistance of his *learned* friend Dr. Hastings, at the Worcester Infirmary.

"The truth is, the air is *essentially* the same in *all* places,"!!! on the top of mountains, in vales, and in wells!!!

What is called "change of air is almost always beneficial to dyspeptics, especially in the advanced stages of the disease."!! A change from a good to a bad air, one would suppose, would not prove very beneficial to a person whose constitution had suffered by disease. If the air in *all* places be *essentially* the same, a mere change of it can be of no use. The fact is, the good effects of removing to a different situation arise from exercise and change of scene.

"Astringents are improper, because they increase the sluggish state of the intestines." Hence astringents strengthen the stomach, but weaken the intestines!!

"In the affection of the stomach, called the water-brash, there is a frequent rejection, *rather resembling eructation* than *vomiting* of a watery fluid from the stomach. *I cannot help agreeing in opinion with Dr. Cullen*, that this is a *peculiar* affection of the stomach, not depending on the state of that organ which produces the disease we are considering."!! By the observation that the disease is *rather an eructation* than a vomiting, one would suppose that this was one of *his* discovered facts. Dr. Cullen, and all writers on the disease state, that the characteristic symptom is "an eructation of a watery fluid."!!

The learned Doctor also cannot help agreeing in opinion with Mr. Abernethy, "That *other* internal diseases, particularly those of the *head* and *heart*, are caused by the deranged state of the digestive organs. I have," says he, "*repeatedly* seen *his* (Mr. A.'s) observations on *those* diseases confirmed." For an illustration of this *important fact*, he refers his readers to the *watery brain* book of Dr. Yeates!! Thus, to support a favourite theory, or hypothesis, the inventor, like a sinking man, catches, with avidity, at every straw!! Even the leading points of the theories of others he bends to suit his own views. Dr. Brooke, of Dublin, to prove that there is such a disease as *liver cough*, quoted the *scientific* work of *Dr* Faithorne. Mr. Foote, to promote the sale of his book, submits to the humiliation of adding to his advertisement, a puff from *Dr.* James Johnson's Chiro-Medical Review, which, to an

author of scientific attainments, one would suppose to amount to an insult.

"It appears from the experiments related in my inquiry into the laws of the vital functions, that the *muscular* fibre, though independent of the *nervous* system, may be influenced through it."!! Muscular fibre influenced through the nerves!!—one would suppose, by the Doctor's observation, that this fact is one of the results of his experiments on rabbits. That muscular action is influenced by nerves, is a fact which no medical man has doubted since the time of Hippocrates.

Speaking of mercury, the Doctor observes, "It ought *never*, we may *safely* affirm, in obstinate cases of indigestion, where the disordered state of the liver constantly recurs at short intervals, to be used *externally*, for we have *no reason* to believe," says he, "that *its action on the skin* can *materially* affect the liver *by sympathy*, and we *often* find, when exhibited this way, it produces but little effect on that organ till the state of the gums shows its *presence* in the constitution."!! Now is there a medical man so grossly ignorant, as to employ mercurial friction with the view of irritating the skin, or of exciting in it an action to affect the liver by sympathy? When mercury is taken into the stomach, it operates on the liver through the medium of the circulation, for there is no other means of conveyance from the stomach to the liver; and whether it be introduced into the circulation by the absorbents of the skin or of the stomach, the effects are the same; but we presume surgeons only have recourse to the "external exhibition of mercury" in cases of diseased stomach or liver, when the stomach is too irritable to retain it, or when it excites nausea, spasms, or diarrhœa. Probably the Doctor thinks, as the affection of the liver is from sympathy, that mercury applied to the stomach acts uniformly on the liver by sympathy!!

"If we have recourse to the acids or the dandelion, wherever mercury does not afford the usual relief, we shall often be disappointed." Dr. Pemberton fancied that he discovered such wonderful properties in dandelion, as to justify his making a book on the subject, and dedicating it to the king. The important discovery proved beneficial to the Doctor only, for experience proved fatal to its reputation.

With respect to the blue pill, so highly extolled by Mr. Abernethy, Doctor Philip has ascertained the *remarkable* fact, "that it is so offensive to *some* constitutions, that I have seen *several* instances in which it *disordered the secretion of the bile, even when it was healthy at the time of its exhibition.*" If this was really the case, the inference is, that it was injudiciously administered, or the article was not properly made. It is very common for the first dose of blue pill, or of any preparation of mercury, to disorder the stomach and bowels, probably in consequence of meeting with acid matter in the stomach. After the first or second dose, it generally agrees with the patient. When acidity prevails in the stomach, or when the bowels are irritable, Mr. Abernethy recommends mercury to be administered combined with chalk, and in cases of debility of the stomach, it should always be administered with an aromatic, as the cordial confection; and where the stomach is in a state of morbid excitement, it should be given in conjunction with a mild sedative, as the extract of henbane, or white poppies.

"The pain is often felt in the *left* side, while the *tenderness* on

pressure is *wholly* confined to the right."!! This *fact* proves, that although the pain is in the *left* side, the *sympathetic* affection is in the *liver*, and of course the pain is *sympathetic* of the *sympathetic* affection of the liver. Now, in cases of indigestion, when pain occurs in the *left* side, a very common attendant, it is uniformly increased by pressure; and so far from the part not being tender, the patient shrinks from the slightest pressure. The truth of this assertion no unbiassed practitioner will deny. The Doctor's facts have satisfied his mind, that even worms lodged in the stomach are capable by sympathy of exciting inflammation in the external membrane of the lungs!! Thus a disease of debility, or diminished energy in the abdomen, is capable of exciting one diametrically opposite in its nature in the chest!! The fact is, worms are very frequently expelled from the intestinal canal during fever, with or without local inflammation, probably in consequence of the increased temperature of the body proving destructive to their vital principle. Febrile heat often proves fatal to the vitality of the hair of the scalp, and the Doctor might as well attribute the fever to an excess of hair. Worms in the stomach and bowels are no doubt, in children, a frequent cause of slight fever; but that worms in the intestinal canal are capable of exciting active inflammation in a viscus or membrane of the chest, is going much too far for evidence in support of his favourite theory.

"It is common for the appetite to improve on lessening the quantity of animal food." This is indeed an admirable explanation of the cause of an increase of appetite or of hunger!

Of the stimulating fluids, the Doctor asserts, "the most pernicious are those which owe their *stimulating* property to the presence of *alcohol* (ardent spirit). "When taken," says the Doctor, "in *considerable* quantity, they not only more, perhaps, than *any other stimulants*, injure the digestive organs, but extend their pernicious effects to other parts of the system, to which, we have *reason* to believe, they are *immediately* applied by means of the absorbents! The form in which alcohol is most beneficial, and in general does least harm, is that in which it exists in foreign wines. Many stomachs seem to feel the bad effects of alcohol, which it is said is added to the stronger wines; for even the most objectionable of all the fermented liquors, which have not been distilled, appears to be less pernicious than any of those which have undergone this process." The stimulating effects of all wines are produced solely by the alcohol they contain. If deprived of this property, they will assuredly prove injurious to the stomach. The objection to wine, in cases of indigestion, particularly the irritative species, is its liability to become acid, and on this account, practitioners of experience and observation recommend the use of diluted brandy, where the patient, from former habits, requires a cordial. Diluted brandy, instead of being liable to become sour, like wine, tends to check the process of fermentation, from which the most troublesome symptoms of indigestion arise, viz flatulence acidity, heartburn, spasms, &c. The Doctor's *reason* for believing that ardent spirit is really conveyed to other parts of the system by the absorbent vessels, he has left for his *patron*, *Dr.* James Johnson to explain!! Dr. Philip thinks he has, by "some *chemical experiments*," made a wonderful discovery as to the cause of gravel.

These are so highly important and creditable to him as a chemist, that we shall give a copy of his own account of them :—" As it is an acknowledged fact that the excessive use of distilled spirits, and other fluids containing alcohol, tends to produce urinary gravel, I was induced to make some experiments for the purpose of ascertaining how far the addition of alcohol to the urine, *after it is out of the body*, tends to promote a deposition of lithic acid from this fluid. I found, however, from *repeated* trials, that it had a contrary tendency, both *retarding* the deposition of this acid, and *greatly lessening* the quantity deposited, which, probably in consequence of its being deposited more slowly, appeared in larger and more distinct crystals when the alcohol was added to the urine. This combines with other circumstances in proving, that, contrary to the opinion of M. Majendie, it is by the debility its incautious use induces on the digestive organs, and not by any direct influence on the urine, that alcohol disposes to urinary gravel."

M. Majendie never stated any thing so truly absurd, as that alcohol, when taken in excess, is conveyed to the blood, and from it separated by the kidneys. He asserts, that in consequence of the stomach being disordered by the alcohol, the food is not properly digested, and the blood being unhealthy, the secretion of the kidneys is found to contain lithic acid. Neither the lithic acid nor alcohol existed in the blood. The new combinations which are formed by the kidneys as much depend, if not more, on the disturbed state of their nerves, as an unhealthy state of blood from indigestion.

We have entered fully into the analysis of Dr. Philip's book, because we conceive his doctrines would be productive of very serious mischief if they were to prevail among young practitioners. If a practitioner were to consider inflammation of the brain, lungs, or liver, which was preceded by symptoms of indigestion, (from which, generally speaking, not one person in a hundred is entirely exempt) as sympathetic of a disordered stomach, and proceed to treat it on the scientific principle of curing the *primary* disease, the probability is, that he would lose twenty-five patients out of thirty. A dyspeptic patient is as liable, on exposure to cold, or change of weather, to inflammation of the lungs, liver, brain, intestines, as any other person; and when it occurs in such a subject, the anti-inflammatory treatment should be proportioned to the general state of the system, the degree of inflammation, and the importance of the affected organ in the animal economy. The idea of the inflammation being a " superaddition of inflammatory action to indigestion," because the patient was previously affected with indigestion, is, in our humble opinion, a very unfortunate one for young practitioners. The affection of the stomach, which the author has termed the second stage of indigestion, is the species of the disease which we have noticed in a late Number under the name of the irritative species, to which gouty people are particularly subject. To such patients, the abstraction of blood, solution of nitre, &c. &c. would prove highly injurious.

For the many books which have lately appeared on complaints of the liver and stomach, the public is *indebted* to Mr. Abernethy's work on the chylopoietic organs. The popularity it has acquired has induced others, for the purpose of giving publicity to their names, to make a book either to elucidate his doctrines, or to add to them some slight

of fancy that they conceive likely to attract public attention. The system has in consequence been terribly quacked. Indeed it appears to us, that Abernethy himself has adhered to his own system too pertinaciously, *i. e.* to the neglect of the *topical* management of local disease.

COLCHICUM SEEDS.—The period recommended by botanists for collecting these seeds is the latter end of June, or the beginning of July. The proper time must, however, depend on the nature of the season. When it is as backward as the present the seeds may not be sufficiently matured till the middle of August. The collector should depend more on the *appearance* of the seeds than any particular period of the year. When the colour of the husk or bark of the seeds becomes darkly brown, he may consider them ripe, and fit for medicinal purposes. Dr. Williams, in a late communication to Dr. Uwins, observes, "In a pound of the seeds collected in the latter part of June, or early in July last, eleven ounces in weight were lost in drying, whereas the same quantity collected at the end of July, or the beginning of August, lost two ounces and a half only. In warmer or dry seasons they may be found perfectly ripe a month earlier." The Doctor condemns the practice of bruising the seeds for the purpose of making the wine, "which some persons," says he, "have been induced to adopt, with the view either to *augment their powers, or to obviate their scarcity;* but as their valuable properties reside chiefly in the husk or cortical part, the benefit of preserving them entire is obvious." He also "strongly condemns the use of any other wine than sherry in *preparing* the wine of the seeds, all British made wines being decidedly objectionable."!! In his first communication on the anti-rheumatic properties of the seeds, he condemned the use of proof spirit, because the infusion of the seeds in it was turbid, and, on keeping, deposited a sediment. This statement he has since found to be incorrect; for instead of a proof spirit, the menstruum he employed contained only half the proper quantity of rectified spirit. The tincture he now prefers to the wine, because it will retain its virtues many years, whereas the wine is liable to run into the acetous fermentation, and thereby injure the extractive matter of the seeds it holds in solution. Few physicians are so candid as the learned Doctor, to acknowledge an ignorance of that very important branch of his profession—Chemistry. A vinous infusion of a vegetable product, unless kept in a cold situation, will certainly run into an acetous fermentation, although sherry or any other wine be employed. We, therefore, in making the wine, have added a proportion of alcohol, or subcarbonate of potass, to preserve it in a vinous state. That the tincture made with the dilute spirit, which the Doctor first employed, and *unbruised* seeds, should be turbid, and that with sherry wine should be clear, is to a chemist a very puzzling circumstance. The quantity of alcohol in each is about the same. Does the dilute spirit extract more resin or more gum than the wine? The fact is, if *unbruised* seeds are employed, the infusion made with wine, or a spirit, of the strength the Doctor first employed, or of *proof spirit*, is clear.

The Doctor's reports of the *effects* of the vinous and spirituous infusions of the seeds, are entitled to more attention. These continue to be in favor of the peculiar virtues of the seeds, in allaying rheumatic pains. Indeed not only from his reports, but those of others, as well

as our own experience, we state with confidence, that the vinous infusion will bear the test of extensive experience. We have not met with a case of rheumatism in which it has not manifested a *specific* effect; and when the seeds are to be obtained in a state of perfection, (in which practitioners have not been able to procure them within the last six months) we have no doubt they will be found generally very beneficial as a sedative, in cases of gout, rheumatism, pulmonary consumption, painful or spasmodic menstruation, and in allaying the pain of organic disease. The seeds possess a peculiar sedative property, and in many cases, will be found a valuable substitute for opium, henbane, hemlock, deadly nightshade, &c. Like the henbane, they possess the very important advantage over opium, of not affecting the head, or producing constipation, and at the same time, are more certain in their sedative operation. Serenity of mind, clearness of head, a favorable state of bowels, and improved state of the digestive organs, generally follow the use of the alkaline wine.

Dr. Williams, since our last report of the efficacy of the wine and oxymel of the colchicum seeds, in cases of gout, rheumatism, painful menstruation, asthma, chronic inflammation of the membrane lining the windpipe and bronchia, and pulmonary consumption, has published nine cases of rheumatism, of long standing, which were soon cured by the wine of the colchicum seeds, after other remedies had failed.

PULMONARY CONSUMPTION.—The celebrated Professor Borda of Italy, has found the seeds of the water fennel very beneficial in the first and second stages of pulmonary consumption, but of no use in the third stage. In inflammatory affections of the mucous membrane of the windpipe and bronchial ramification, when they supervene to catarrh and inflammation of the lungs, he has also found them very serviceable. He commenced with the dose of ten grains every two or three hours, which he gradually increased to a drachm. The seeds in conjunction with Peruvian bark were some years ago highly extolled in this country as a remedy for pulmonary consumption. Being powerfully narcotic or poisonous, their effects should be carefully watched. A mania for poisonous medicines has for some time prevailed among the physicians of Italy, and if their late reports of the beneficial effects of emetic tartar, foxglove, deadly nightshade, &c. be correct, the Italians possess the extraordinary power of resisting the fatal effects of those poisons. *Three drachms* of emetic tartar, administered to *one* patient, *daily*, have proved beneficial in cases of fever. Half a drachm of deadly nightshade in powder, and *two drachms* of the *extract* every three hours, act beneficially on the constitution of an Italian!!! To the strongest Englishman, one-eighth the quantity would prove fatal in a few hours.

HOOPING-COUGH.—Professor Borda speaks in very high terms of the virtues of the powdered root of the deadly nightshade in subduing hooping-cough. "Children," says he, "to all appearance past all human assistance, have been snatched from death by means of it." He first prescribed one-fourth of a grain of the powder every four hours, and increased the dose gradually, according to the age of the patient. In no instance he exceeded two grains. About two years ago Surgeon Kerrison, of London, published some cases of hooping-

cough, which, after resisting the usual remedies, yielded soon to the influence of the extract of the deadly night-shade.

HEDGE HYSSOP.—Professor Borda has administered the decoction of the hedge hyssop with complete success in cases of dysentery, after ipecacuanha and other remedies had failed. He has also prescribed it in cases of intermittents which were greatly aggravated by the Peruvian bark, with the most decided advantage. "On the whole," says the Professor, "it is an active contra-stimulant, and may be employed in mania and other complaints, where it is necessary to subdue morbid irritation or excess of stimulation."

TIC DOULOUREUX.—Mr. G. H. Villers, an experienced surgeon of London, has published a small treatise on this disease, to give publicity to a plan of treatment which he has uniformly found successful in preventing and radically curing it. His mode of treatment, he says, "has invariably been to excite a *new* action in the system, checking or moderating the effects of the morbid impression induced by the cause of the disease, on the part or parts affected, and as the health of the body depends on the digestive organs properly performing their functions, it is necessary to observe, that whatever tends to derange these important viscera should be cautiously avoided. The body, during the treatment," must be kept gently open, and the feet immersed in warm water, up to the knees, for several successive nights The benefit of this treatment," he says, "is soon apparent by the consequent decrease of irritability. Bloodletting, where the constitution will bear it, he has also employed with advantage." The most healthy constitutions he has found to bear very large evacuations of blood, when symptoms clearly required it. "In many cases," says he, "a person after bleeding can be more easily stimulated." The cold bath he has found a powerful tonic, but, like all others, it may be abused, so as to do mischief, and the warm bath, in like manner, has its good and bad effects, and their consequences must depend as symptoms may point out their use, or the reverse. "The first action of cold," says Mr. Villers, "is to produce a sudden torpor in the vessels of the skin, and to determine the volume of blood from the external to the internal parts; hence, if the person be disposed to internal bleedings, the first application of cold to the skin may bring it on." Mr. V. "has tried the carbonate of iron to the full extent of the dose the stomach will bear (as recommended by Surgeon Hutchinson of Southwell), in several well-marked cases of tic douloureux of ten and twenty years standing, with much success; but he has never had a case so decidedly cured by its administration without the assistance of external application, as that by Dr. Carter noticed in our last Number. In addition to the following form of prescription, he has found, by practical experience, nineteen cases out of twenty immediately alleviated by pledgets of linen, well bathed in common vinegar, applied and worn over the painful seat of the disease, and which has, in the space of two or three days, totally allayed the morbid irritation of that branch of the nervous system. The patient, at the same time, is to take the following medicine, and the bowels to be kept gently soluble:—

Take of Blue Pill, Ipecacuan Powder, of each half a drachm.
Mix and divide into twelve pills; two to be taken every night at bed-time.

Take of Carbonate of Soda;
Carbonate of Iron;
Aromatic Confection; of each one scruple.
Pure water, two ounces.—Mix. To be taken three times a day.

The deadly night-shade, recommended by Mr. Bailey for pains in the face, Mr. Villers has found to merit the character given it by that gentleman. Mr V. recommends the patient to keep himself moderately warm. The head, he says, "cannot be too much so." Pure air and exercise are also proper; and whatever tends to produce restlessness and anxiety, and excite the passions of the mind, are to be avoided. We are glad to find, from our foreign coadjutors, that Surgeon Hutchinson's pamphlet on tic douloureux has been translated into the Italian, French, and German languages, and that the carbonate of iron, in the dose recommended by him, has generally proved successful. The discovery is very justly termed, in some of the foreign Journals, "one of the most important that has been made in medicine, since that of the circulation of the blood by the immortal Harvey."

DIGESTION.—Dr. Philip has repeated his experiments on rabbits, in the presence of the President and several Members of the Royal Society, and the results satisfied them, that the galvanic fluid, conveyed by a branch of the eighth pair of nerves (after being divided) to the stomach, has some influence in keeping up digestion in the stomach; but that they proved that a similar subtile fluid is conducted from the brain, by the nerves, or that the process of digestion was kept up by the stimulating effects of the galvanic fluid on the stomach, was by no means clear. The report industriously circulated by a foreigner, of the name of Bozi, who has lately settled in this metropolis under the name of *Dr Granville*, that the experiments had totally failed, is therefore not true. We advise this foreign gentleman to be a little more circumspect in his conduct towards English physicians, and cautious in his recommendation of poisonous articles, for, in this country, *high patronage* does not afford the protection it does in others. The experiments of Dr. Philip are highly important, and we should be very glad to find his statements to be correct. We have been some time engaged in repeating them, but as we are proceeding on a more extensive scale, with the view of ascertaining the influence of oxygen conveyed into the lungs, in keeping up the vital powers, we are fearful we shall not be able to report the results for some months.

VACCINATION.—We are sorry to find that failures of cow-pox in affording security against small pox, are increasing throughout this country. A correspondent, at Bromley, in Kent, informs us, that a gentleman residing near Down, who lately returned from the East Indies, with a young family, inoculated, with small-pox matter, all his children, who had been vaccinated a few years ago in Bombay. They all took the disease. The fever ran high, but the eruption was far from being numerous, and was so mild as to resemble chicken-pox more than small-pox. These cases are interesting, because we are told that the cow-pox has *uniformly* succeeded in the East Indies, as a security against small-pox contagion.

TWINS.—Sirs, In the 64th Number of your very valuable publica-

tion, a Correspondent, under the signature of "A Pupil," inquires, if, in case of twins, any circumstance can render it advisable to postpone the delivery of the second child, for twenty-four hours, and if a practitioner is justified in leaving a woman for many hours after delivering her of one child, knowing that one was left behind. As the object of the inquiry is information, I take up my pen to reply to his letter.—I have been in the practice of midwifery twenty-five years, and, I believe, have attended to the principle and practice of midwifery, as much as any of my contemporaries, and after reflecting, for some time, on all the circumstances that have or can occur during labour, I cannot discover, or fancy one that could render the practice, which was adopted by a Worcester surgeon, necessary, and, I think, it behoves that practitioner to assign some reason for his conduct, in leaving a woman with a child in the uterus, after delivering her of one, and his reasons for postponing the delivery, especially as the patient died so soon after the second delivery. The os externus et internus, I conceive, must have contracted considerably in the course of twenty-four hours, and the poor woman in consequence have experienced much more pain on the second delivery, than she would have done, had the child been brought away in *proper time*. The fact is, midwives, male and female, pretend to be very knowing, and when any thing occurs of this kind, they always assert that they knew it, and that the delay was absolutely necessary for the safety and advantage of the patient.

I am, Sirs, your constant reader and friend,

J. R. C., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

London, May 30th, 1821.

PYROLIGNATE OF SODA.—About ten or fifteen years ago, a neutral salt, advertised under the name of "Brazil Salts," and much recommended as a pleasant, mild, and efficacious aperient, by the late Dr. Hunter, of York, was in considerable demand. This salt we find to be the acetate of soda. It is of a brown colour in consequence of being made with common vinegar. The salt made with the pure pyroligneous acid and soda, is white and in small crystals, and of a peculiarly pleasant sweetish taste. It is grateful to the stomach, and operates very mildly on the intestines, never occasioning griping pains. It powerfully allays thirst, abates fever, and improves the digestive organs. The dose is from two to four drachms, dissolved in two or four ounces of water. It is also slightly diuretic. It is a very excellent aperient during warm weather.

PYROLIGNIC ACID.—The scientific Dr. Stanley of Whitehaven has published the results of some experiments he made with this acid in preserving meat. The meat, after a voyage to tropical climates, was found to be in a perfectly sweet state. The Doctor employed the pure pyroligneous acid (deprived of petroleum), which we consider much too powerful to preserve meat for eating. The impure acid is the best for preserving meat for use, the acid being weak, and the petroleum, which possesses a fine fragrant smoky odour, is a powerful auxiliary to the acid in resisting putrefaction. The impure acid, for the purpose of preserving meat, may now be obtained at the price of two shillings a gallon, a quantity sufficient for four pigs. The smoky flavour it gives to meat is more grateful than that it receives from the smoke of wood.

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 68. To AUGUST 1, 1821. VOL. VI.

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

(Continued from page 969.)

THIS institution is a branch of a Catholic government, and notwithstanding the revolutions that have taken place in the other department of the legislature, in consequence of the ascendency of protestantism, the spirit of monkerism still predominates in it. Like the Catholic establishments of other countries, they admit only those to a participation of the loaves and fishes, &c. that were educated at the same universities as themselves, and consequently co-operate with them in supporting their pretensions to superior education and exclusive right to the fee-trade. A person, therefore, possessing a residentiary degree of M. D. from Oxford or Cambridge, is admitted as a matter of right a Fellow of the College of London, although, during his residence at the university, he paid no attention to medicine. He is, however, according to the College charter, a *regular* physician, and takes precedence of the physicians of all other universities.

Although the universities of Scotland were placed on an equal footing with those of England, by the Articles of Union, the members of the College exclude their graduates from their body, but by way of appeasing them, they grant them licences to practise physic within their jurisdiction, in common cases of disease, and with the true spirit of catholicism, they demand a sum of money for the licence, and bind them by oath not to interfere with or oppose their measures. With the same spirit they make by-laws for the government of the licentiates, and, notwithstanding they are ignorant of them, they are subjected to their censure or punishment, if they act contrary to them. With the same liberal spirit, they subject a candidate of any other university, when he applies for a licence, to an examination, although he received his education at a *proper* school of medicine, and possesses a diploma, after passing the fiery ordeal. The examination at the college was for many years conducted by the Bishop of London and Dean of St. Paul's, and although it has been transferred to the censors of the College, it does not vary in its object. It is conducted in the language of Rome, and according to Roman custom, in a room with closed doors, no person being allowed to be present, except the examiners and the candidate, a practice contrary to the spirit of the British constitution, and which, we believe, has been abolished in every country in Europe, even in those where Catholic tyranny most prevails.

Do these enlightened philosophers continue the practice in opposition to the constitution of their country and common justice, for the purpose of subjecting candidates, who are not friendly to their institution, to stricter examination than those they may be desirous to favour? or, are they

ashamed of the examination their university education enables them to make, or desirous to avoid an exposure of their profound *medical* knowledge which a controversy might occasion? Certain it is, that the examination is not secretly conducted out of delicacy to the candidate, for, when one is rejected, the circumstance is known to all the physicians of London in a few days!! The practice of examining candidates in the ancient language of Rome, we believe, is confined to our College of Physicians. In France, Spain, and Portugal, we know it has been long abandoned; candidates for a diploma being, in those countries, examined in their respective native language. Why, then, is such an absurdity continued in this country, which professes to be, and very justly so, the most enlightened in Europe? Is this Catholic practice necessary to support College or English university medicine? Does the fee-trade, or what some enlightened members of the College have modestly termed *legitimate* medicine, require the cloak of a dead language, to secure the respect and confidence of the public?

It is unquestionably to the ignorance and prejudices of the public, that the *legitimate* physicians, (physicians of the old school, unacquainted with modern medicine, and particularly the important branches, chemistry and surgery), are indebted for the rank they hold in society, viz. that of regular physicians. Hence, their violent opposition to all attempts to diffuse a knowledge of medicine among the bulk of mankind. Those who presume to publish a work on domestic medicine, or any work calculated to enable the public to form an estimate of their professional abilities, are declared to be out of the pale of the regular profession, and are branded with the most insulting epithets, as quacks of the worst description, to prejudice the public against their productions and their practice. They are deemed a more dangerous, or more culpable set than those mischievous heretics were by the church of Rome, who dared to translate the Bible into their vernacular tongue, and divest the Catholic religion of mystery and superstition. In their opinion the public has nothing to do with medicine, but to swallow it under *their* direction. They are well aware that the knowledge of medicine, which has already been diffused throughout every class of society, has already shaken the confidence of the thinking part of the community in *their* professional abilities; and some seem convinced that the man who is acquainted with every department of medicine, and independent of attending lectures, has obtained a knowledge of diseases at the bedside of patients, is more entitled to the denomination of a regular physician than the man who is acquainted only with the writings of the ancients, and we may venture to predict, from the ardour and success with which medicine has been and still is cultivated by surgeon-apothecaries, (Licentiates of the Company of Apothecaries) that the time is not far distant when some legitimate physicians will be denominated, as they have impudently termed others, a set of Quacks.

If the Members of the College of Physicians will take the trouble to read a small work lately published by Surgeon Syder, under the title of "A Series of Questions and Answers for the use of Gentlemen preparing for Examination at Apothecaries' Hall," they will find that the candidates for a licence to practise every branch of medicine, are subjected to a very strict examination in Chemistry, Pharmacy, Anatomy, and

the practice of Physic, and if *they* were required by the legislature to pass the same ordeal, how many among them would be found competent to practise the art? By means of this book, a person may ascertain the qualifications of a medical practitioner, and were it to be purchased by invalids, for the purpose of interrogating their medical attendants, legitimate medicine, or the farce of the fee-trade, would be exposed, to the great disgrace of its supporters.

To the researches and industry of Surgeon-Apothecaries, the public is indebted for all the discoveries that have been made in the healing art, for the last two hundred years, and in consequence of the salutary operation of the Apothecaries' Act, we have no hesitation in saying, that the licentiates of the Society of Apothecaries, are more entitled to the implicit confidence of patients, let their maladies be ever so intricate or obscure, than the graduates of the English Universities. We beg to ask those sticklers for legitimate medicine, in what state the healing art would have been at this period, had it been entirely under the control of the College of Physicians? If lectures had not been given in London, on the different branches, and the hospitals not opened to students, should we not at this time have been administering wine and Peruvian bark in typhus fever, a practice which evidently destroyed forty out of fifty, for it is clear, by the result of an opposite treatment, that those who survived the stimulating treatment, possessed constitutions capable of resisting even the combined influence of the fever and excessive stimulation; yet did the ancient legitimate physicians take the credit of curing those whom their injudicious treatment could not kill. Should we not be employing the most absurd compositions and ptisans, like the legitimate physicians in France, keeping children warm under the influence of Small-Pox; in fact, should we not have been five hundred years behind the Apothecaries of the present day, in medical knowledge?

As to surgery, it would have continued in the hands of barbers, and for one operation, which is now performed, we should have had fifty. As to the syphilitic poison, which produced such horrid ravages, and, in consequence of the union of surgery and pharmacy, has totally disappeared among us, it would have fair play, and faces without noses, and skulls like cullen dishes, would be viewed, from their frequent occurrence, with indifference. The College would themselves be at a loss for an excuse to publish a new Pharmacopœia, a speculation which brought to their coffer some thousand pounds; for not one of the discoveries which have rendered a new Pharmacopœia necessary, originated with them, or a member of their body!! These are facts, which the members of the College will not dare to deny, however disreputable they are to a chartered body of medical philosophers, for the express purposes of promoting medical science, and suppressing Quackery.

This Catholic limb of the legislature has been for many years in a decaying state. It is now approaching to mortification, and will no doubt soon be consigned by surgery to the knife, as perfectly useless, if not injurious to the body corporate of medicine. In our next number, we shall bring this subject to a conclusion. The College of Physicians having lately granted a licence to Dr. Goode, to practise physic within their jurisdiction, without passing through the forms required by their

statutes, and nearly the majority consisting of men of great scientific attainments, and, of course, liberality, we are encouraged to hope we shall soon hear of their discarding the sordid and selfish views, by which their conduct has been so long governed; and regulating their proceedings on the principles of a *manly, fair*, and *liberal* policy; opening their doors to all who shall be found qualified to enter, and no longer insulting their brethren, their country, and common sense, by denying to a class of men, who will not yield to them in point of learning, talent, or zeal for the *honor* of the profession, the enjoyment of those privileges to which, in reason and justice, they are entitled. When we see them do all this, and not till then, we shall believe, that they have the promotion of medical science, and, consequently, the good of mankind, at heart. They should be aware, as the public is, that neither a diploma, nor *their* licence, can make a physician; and that patients presume, in these enlightened days, to expect a physician to pay at least as much attention to their maladies as to his own interest.

The leading members of the College have said, with a degree of triumph, that of all the Medical Journals published in the United Kingdom, the Editor of the Gazette of Health alone, has "found fault with the by-laws and conduct of the College and other institutions, and commented with freedom on the state of medicine in this kingdom, and on medical works." The reason why we have so freely stated our opinions of medical institutions and books, is, because our work is independent of the medical profession. One of the chief objects of our undertaking is to acquaint the public with the state of medicine, and the pretensions of those physicians to a superior knowledge, who claim an exclusive right to the practice of physic; and in the execution of this part, which to us is the most unpleasant, we have stated facts, without any other view than to discharge our duty faithfully to the public, and we are happy to find, that the opinions we have given, and the manner in which we have conducted our Journal, have met with the approbation of members of the profession esteemed for their love of science and profound erudition.

The editors of some Journals, whose circulation is confined to the medical world, dare not deliver their sentiments freely, either of publications or the conduct of medical institutions, and they are often under the necessity of speaking favourably of the most contemptible productions, to oblige certain subscribers or their employers. The accusation some scribblers have laid to our charge, that we wish to establish domestic medicine on the ruins of regular medicine, is too ridiculous to notice. To our medical readers, we flatter ourselves, it is evident that we are labouring to advance the *science* of medicine; and that in exposing the absurdities of the hepatic and other theories, and regular and irregular quackery, our wish is to prevent its retrograding. By the history of medicine from the time of Hippocrates, it is evident, it has been sometimes advanced, and at other times retrograded, and the cause of the latter has been absurd theories. By pointing out the ridiculous ideas of wild theorists or prolific dreamers, we, therefore, conceive that we are doing much towards the advancement of sound medical knowledge, and by enabling the public to distinguish the man of science from the impostor, we are very materially serving those members of the profes-

sion, who are properly qualified to exercise their art. It is the ignorance of the people alone, that screens pretenders and impostors, and puts them on a level with men of merit. This is, indeed, the only reason that induces certain members of the profession and jargon writers, to condemn popular works on medicine. The pretender shrinks from the scrutinising eye of intelligence. He knows that the man of science and knowledge will discover those practitioners who deserve his confidence. Such, to a properly educated practitioner, are the most agreeable patients to attend, for they willingly and cheerfully resign themselves to his guidance, and calmly submit to the evil which forms a part of their condition in this world. We flatter ourselves that no person can justly accuse us of intentional misrepresentation, of being actuated by sordid motives, or of injustice, in conducting this work; and the increasing patronage of men of science, we consider a decisive proof that our labours to promote the true dignity of the profession, and benefit the public, are not in vain.

TAPE WORM.—Dr. Robert Knox has published the following cases of tape worm, to illustrate the specific effects of the spirit of turpentine in destroying its vitality:

"A gardener who had ineffectually resorted to a variety of remedies to rid himself of so troublesome a disease, restricted himself entirely to a milk diet for about three weeks, with the effect of arresting the growth of the tape worm, as few or none of the detached joints were discharged with his fæces during the continuance of this regimen. The spirit of turpentine was prescribed for him, in the dose of two drachms, morning and evening. He, almost immediately after, voided by stool, a portion of a tape worm, consisting of about 240 distinct joints, each about three-fourths of an inch in length; the unpleasant harassing symptoms which generally accompany the presence of tape worm in the human body immediately left him, and did not return."

"A middle-aged man (a half-pay officer) had been affected with tape worm for eight years, during which long period, an incredible quantity of drugs had been prescribed for the complaint, and taken without any permanent advantage. He had been under the care of several medical men, and his constitution was greatly impaired. During these eight years, he had been in the constant habit of passing detached joints of the tape worm by stool, in great quantities, and his existence had become, in consequence of this and other complaints, truly miserable. Two drachms of spirit of turpentine in a little water, were taken twice a day, for four successive days. He now passed the tape worm in large connected masses; the symptoms of disease disappeared, and his health returned."

"In the 3d case, (also an officer,) the tape worm appeared suddenly, whilst the individual enjoyed perfect health. He had never passed any worms previously to the present attack. The symptoms, as in most others, were acute headache, indigestion, fetid breath, grinding of the teeth, constant itching of the nostrils, stiffness of the lower jaw, sensation of pain in the temporal muscles, increased flow of saliva, sickness and pain of stomach, pains in the chest and bowels, slight tenesmus, paleness, general debility, and emaciation. The complaint was observed to be much aggravated by the use of animal food, and a vegetable diet was found effectual in repressing the growth of the worm;

but did not succeed in removing the disease. A powerful dose of jalap and calomel was prescribed, with the view of expelling, at least the detached joints of the worm, if not the worm itself; but it proved useless. The cure was finally effected by the spirit of turpentine."

"It would be tedious to enumerate more of the cases which occurred, as they bear to each other so close a resemblance; but there are circumstances regarding the action of the remedy employed, and the exciting cause of the complaint, which merit minute discussion."

"It has been generally allowed by medical writers, that there is scarcely any part of medical science more obscure than the origin of intestinal worms. The works of the ancients contain no accurate observations on this interesting point, and the labours of the moderns have only involved the subject in greater obscurity. Much was to be expected from the exertions of the natural historian, and from the aid of the microscope in the hands of men of science, accustomed to habits of correct observation, and to the impartial investigation of nature. This class of men has done much towards elucidating the nature of intestinal worms, or, speaking more generally, of *entozoa*, the name by which worms living within other animal bodies are distinguished. But great difficulties remain to be overcome, and the opinions maintained by the most accurate writer on this subject, (Rudolphi,) appear untenable."

"A simple enumeration of the various causes which have been assigned for the production of intestinal and other worms, would convince an impartial reader, that such were inadequate to produce the effect, and were supported by men, who did not give credit to their own doctrines. The extreme difficulty attending such investigations will be made manifest, by remarking that the justly celebrated Linné entertained notions regarding the origin, habits, and growth, of the tape worm, which Pallas and Rudolphi have since proved to be entirely erroneous. It is unnecessary here to discuss the opinions of a host of writers so ably combated and refuted by these authors. It seems preferable rather to inquire into the causes which gave rise to intestinal worms, in so great a number of, otherwise, healthy individuals,—an inquiry fraught with interest to the medical practitioner; since, next to the removing disease, when present, the most important subjects for investigation, are its predisposing and exciting causes."

"The best authors have remarked that, for the production of intestinal worms, a certain predisposition of the body is necessary, which is termed a '*verminose diathesis*,' and sometimes a '*verminous disposition of body*.' This they describe as originating in scanty, unwholesome vegetable diet, and hence the frequency of intestinal worms amongst the poor: but they also assert, that debility, from whatever cause arising, may give origin to the same complaints. In confirmation of these opinions, they remark that the inhabitants of low marshy countries, as Holland, are more subject than others to intestinal worms. All preceding theories having been disproved by minute microscopical inquiry, naturalists have admitted the preceding statements, and explained the generation of worms in the human body, by a process totally dissimilar to what is known to take place in the production of all other animals, and somewhat resembling the growth of mushrooms, from a *compost* employed for that express purpose. Nor do the careful expressions of Rudolphi diminish the difficulty, or explain away the absurdities attending the

admission of such an *hypothesis*. 'Organic particles,' he observes, 'are required for the production of internal worms, in the same manner, as we find the classes of animals called *infusoria* and *phytozoa*, and some *fungi*, are produced.' 'In parts,' he further observes, 'which have been organized, as well animal as vegetable, and which have been macerated in water for some time, innumerable animalcules called *infusoria*, are known to arise, and to be produced by a process not unlike putrefaction.'" "It is with deference," says Doctor Knox, "that I offer, in opposition to the opinions of such accurate observers of nature, the following objections: debility presents itself to the medical practitioner daily, in a hundred forms, without being accompanied by intestinal or other worms. On the contrary, these appear in the strongest constitutions, particularly exemplified by the cases detailed at the commencement of these remarks. The individuals alluded to were, with few exceptions, young, healthy, active men. The climate of the Cape, where they resided, is remarkably dry, forming, as it were, the opposite Holland; and Hasselquist says, of Egypt, that the inhabitants are much afflicted with tape worm, a practitioner in Cairo assuring him that two-thirds of the inhabitants of that city were afflicted with them. Moisture, therefore, can have little effect in the production of tape worm; neither can a vegetable diet be blamed for its production, since many months had elapsed, during which, vegetables (bread excepted) formed no part of the diet of any of the individuals alluded to in the preceding cases."

"As tape worm and other worms are occasionally found in fish, some writers have asserted that they are thus transferred into the human frame. The observations of naturalists have shewn that the tape worm observed in fish and man, differ essentially; and, in addition, it may be remarked that, of the hundreds whom I have known to be affected with the tape worm, none had tasted fish for the period of at least six months previously to the appearance of the worms, and many not for years. It remains, therefore, to be explained, how so many healthy young men became so suddenly affected with the tape worm; for assuredly no theory, hitherto offered on the subject of intestinal worms, throws any light on their origin in the present instance. From the disturbances worms generally create in the human frame, we should be inclined to adopt a conclusion very different from the preceding writers, and forming almost an exact counterpart, viz. that intestinal worms are not natural to man. This opinion is confirmed by the constant efforts nature makes to throw off the disease—efforts more or less obvious in different individuals, but perhaps existing in all. The *filaria medinensis* has been classed with the *entozoa*, though several writers allow that it naturally exists in the wells and rivers of warm countries."

"Intestinal worms are introduced into the human frame mixed with the food or drink; and finding in the intestines an apt place for their existence, they there live and thrive, but they do not arise from a weak and injured digestion, and a consequent combination of matter, capable of converting itself into intestinal worms. Were we satisfied with such explanations, the origin of man, and all other animals, would be readily accounted for, from a peculiar arrangement and combination of organic molecules: placed under peculiar circumstances, the story of the serpent Python would be no longer a fable."

"Perhaps the strongest objection hitherto offered to the opinion that intestinal worms are not generated within the bodies of man and other animals, but are transferred to them through the medium of the ingesta, arises from the fact, well ascertained, that they have no where been found, excepting within the viscera of other animals. But to this it may be observed, that the repeated errors committed by microscopical observers, have brought this mode of observing natural phenomena into a certain degree of disrepute. The indefinite nature of the theory supported by late writers, that intestinal worms are generated within the viscera of man, by a process our food undergoes when not properly digested, has retarded the advancement of knowledge relative to these animals." "It has done worse," continues Dr. Knox, "it has prevented minute inquiry into the immediate existing cause of intestinal worms, into the particular article of food, which more immediately produces them; and it has spread widely a few vague notions, that unwholesome coarse food, whether animal or vegetable, when introduced into a weakened stomach, will, at all times, give rise to the disease of worms. It seems of importance, therefore, to reduce the subject to a few determinate points; and by subjecting the inquiry to a stricter analysis, enable succeeding observers readily to prove or confute the existing theory."

"It may," says Dr. Knox, "be admitted, that intestinal worms (or the matter capable of producing them) can be introduced into the stomach of man and other animals only with the food or drink. That they do not arise from the latter, may be conjectured from the following fact, that individuals, using, for a series of years, water drawn from the same sources, have not been afflicted with tape worm, or other worms; nor did these appear until other causes, to which, with more probability, they might be referred, were also present."

"The cases of tape worm, detailed in the commencement of this paper, occurred in active healthy young men, subjected to the same discipline and privations, and using, with few or no exceptions, the same sort of food and drink. These circumstances merit peculiar notice, as it seldom happens that an experiment can be made so extensively in civil life, where the habits of no two individuals resemble each other;—where the food and exercise of the sick, are submitted to no precise rules;—and the dissimilarity in age, constitution, and previous habits of life, renders all general conclusions necessarily incorrect."

"In men so situated, we must look to some general exciting cause of disease, the explanations hitherto offered of individual cases, being totally inapplicable. The food of these men, (for to it we must ultimately refer the disease), consisted chiefly of unwholesome meat, the flesh of over-driven, starved, and unhealthy oxen, reduced often to a mere skeleton by fatigue, want of food, and exposure to the cold rains, which are observed to sicken and destroy most of the horned cattle and sheep which have not preserved their condition throughout the winter: the use of this sort of food, from peculiar circumstances, was unavoidable. I shall not here dispute the point, whether the tape worm be transferred, as completely formed animals, from the unwholesome and diseased meat, to the stomach and intestines of man, or there generated; it is sufficient to have established the point, that they arise from the use of *unwholesome* animal food—from the flesh of animals which have been diseased."

"I have avoided, as much as possible, detailing any minute facts, regarding the natural history of tape worm, and other intestinal worms, supposing most practitioners in medicine to be acquainted with the leading phenomena of these animals. The following brief remarks I therefore submit to the naturalist, and claim his indulgence for any trifling error which may occur."

"Various ridiculous opinions were formerly entertained, regarding that variety of tape worm, called *solium*, most of which have been successfully combated by the ingenious and accurate Rudolphi. It is now known, that four individuals of this species, have been discharged by the same patient, hence the obvious impropriety of the name.—The theory formerly upheld, regarding the indefinite growth of joints, to supply the place of those detached from the body of the tape worm, and passed by stool, has been rendered exceedingly doubtful. The tæniæ solium seems to be regenerated, rather by an evolution of joints, already existing, or by the production of new joints, near that extremity of the worm, where naturalists have proved the head to be placed. It is probable, therefore, that Rudolphi may be correct, when he states that the joints of the tænia solium do not increase in number but in length; or we may assent to the opinion of Pallas, who seems to think that there may be a reproduction of joints towards the head extremity of the animal *."

"It is no longer disputed by naturalists, that in the small perfect tænia solium, there are constantly found a destino and tail joint, which is not perfected by any vessel or tube, but as the animal, when suffered to come to maturity, has secret joints in great numbers, which pass off with the fæces, it is obvious, should the observations of naturalists be correct, that the tail joint must first be detached, and unless regenerated at a future period, ought never afterwards to be found in the animal. This difficulty has been slightly touched on by preceding writers. It seems to prove that the longevity of the animal is considerable, and that its original habits must have become altered, by residing in the human intestines, for the secretion of the tail joint can hardly be considered as a natural process. A change of localities is observed to exert a certain, though limited influence, even over man and the class *mammalia;* but over animals of obscure vitality, and over the vegetable world, (to which *entozoa* bear close resemblance,) the power of external agents knows no limits. By a change in their place of abode, by the slightest change of climate, or culture, they not unfrequently become so remarkably different from their original or parent stock, as with difficulty to be recognised. Hence it probably happens that the tape worm has never been detected but in the intestines of man and other animals."

"Intestinal worms infest graminivorous quadrupeds, and particularly the horse. They appear generally during winter, and quit him as soon as he is permitted to regain his flesh and strength on the spring pastures: when young sweet grass cannot be obtained, the worms are

---

"* It is a remarkable fact, that no well authenticated case exists of worms being found in the intestines of the fœtus or infant at the breast."

generally expelled by a dose or two of melted fat taken from the Cape sheep."

"The presence of worms in the intestinal canal of man may be suspected, when a few of the symptoms already enumerated are present; nor ought the practitioner to doubt the correctness of his conclusion, on finding that a few doses of a purgative medicine do not bring away worms by stool. The tape worm will betray its presence in the intestines, by the separation and discharge of distinct joints. When other varieties of it are suspected, the patient ought to have recourse to the spirit of turpentine. The difficulty of breathing, occasioned by the tape worm, is a remarkable symptom, and may in some cases lead to an early detection of the complaint; but the superabundant secretion of *saliva* is connected with many disorders of the frame, and cannot be deemed a test, either of the presence of worms, or of the recent use of mercury, but rather as a symptom of general bad health."

"A variety of drugs and *methods* have been recommended for the expulsion of *tænia* and other *entozoa* from the intestines of man; these may be reduced to three heads."

"1st. MECHANICAL REMEDIES, as *pulvis stanni;* large doses of *aloes,* taken in the form of pill, (which have been known to expel tape worm from the intestines), probably act in the same way. This method sometimes succeeds, but is exceedingly uncertain."

"2dly. Drastic purgative medicines, which occasionally are found successful in expelling the tape worm, but whose operation is attended with disagreeable symptoms, and, not unfrequently, irreparable injury to the constitution. Milder purgatives are often exhibited, preceded by *bitters* and *aromatics.*"

"3dly. *Anthelmintics,* or drugs, which destroy intestinal worms, by being inimical to their vitality: of these, the most efficacious is *spirit of turpentine,* given either alone, or compounded with empyreumatic animal oil, as in the celebrated preparation of Chabert. I have generally found that from one to two drachms of the spirit of turpentine, given in a little water, morning and evening, for three successive days, were sufficient to destroy the tænia solium, (even in the most obstinate cases), and cause it to leave the intestines, without the aid of any purgative medicines. The practice, however, of exhibiting a little castor oil about noon of each day, is unobjectionable, and may be useful, as the turpentine never purges the patients. The narcotic effects produced by turpentine on tape worm, and other worms, may be judged of by the fact, (ascertained by several experiments), that when one drachm only has been taken, and the patient has declined continuing its use, an immediate stop is put to the production of separate joints by the tænia; the vigour of the worm is destroyed; it sickens, and in proportion to its unhealthy state, does the patient regain his health and strength. Should the turpentine not be repeated, the worm recovers slowly; and after the lapse of an uncertain period, (two or three weeks) the usual secretion of joints recommences. A large dose of spirit of turpentine, (from four to eight drachms) produced, in many patients, unpleasant symptoms, such as intense head-ache, giddiness, and a confusion of ideas, amounting to temporary delirium. Neither wine nor spirits should be drank during the use of turpentine, lest strangury be produced. Food

ought to be avoided on the mornings of using the medicine, nor should any be taken in the evening. The turpentine has been found most rapid in its effects, when taken about 8 or 9 A. M."

Spirit of turpentine has been used with success in cases of tape worm on the continent, and more particularly in Germany, for at least fifty years. To it the celebrated preparation of Chabert owes its remarkable efficacy. The ascarides are easily expelled by the same drug; and it is probable that a worm will not remain in the intestines, if the system be kept under the influence of oil of turpentine for a few days.

Many alarming symptoms have been known to arise from the presence of worms in the intestinal canal, particularly nervous disorders, as epilepsy, convulsions, and St. Vitus's dance. Dr. Knox has seen a high degree of nervousness existing in many patients affected with worms, and has found that this nervous state disappeared with the removal of the existing cause. If worms were found only in the stomach and intestines, we might suppose that they were the products of eggs of small animals or insects; but when they are found in the interstices of muscles, the substance of the liver, brain, &c. to which it is impossible an egg, however small, can be conveyed, the inference that equivocal generation does take place, is very strong. Dr. Knox's hypothesis, that the tape worm is produced by the meat of unhealthy or diseased animals, and that it may be taken into the stomach in a perfect state, is too ridiculous for comment. If such meat contained a worm or an egg, surely the vitality of either would be destroyed by the process of boiling or roasting, or by mastication. The assertion that worms are not the consequences of indigestion, is also not correct. The best preventive of every species of worms is iron, and the most efficacious combination is the Epsom salt crystallized with it, noticed in our present Number.

NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.—In this enlightened age, a case of disease derives importance, from the character and rank of the subject of it. The case of his late Majesty, noticed in our 51st Number, was, however, interesting both in a metaphysical and a pathological point of view, independent of his elevated situation. In him, after the brain ceased to perform the intellectual functions, which some metaphysicians consider the operations of the soul, the influence of vis medicatrix naturæ in the animal economy, which others have attributed to the soul, continued in full force, so that the health of the body was not impaired, till the effects of old age were manifest in the stomach and bowels. The case of the late Princess Charlotte of Wales remains interesting, because, in Hibernian phraseology, which although sometimes ridiculous, is often very expressive, it was never made out. The case of Selles, although the subject was in a menial capacity, also continues interesting, because it was *scientifically* examined, and gave rise to an ingenious and highly satisfactory report, for which the able surgeon justly received the honor of a baronetage. The late operation, of removing a small incysted tumor from the head of his Majesty, although the most simple in surgery, and attended with no risk, has been published in all the papers of Europe, and the operator is to receive a titular honor, because the subject was a monarch.

The case of Napoleon Buonaparte is highly interesting, not only in a medical point of view, but from his peculiar situation, and the elevated

rank he maintained for many years in Europe, as an Emperor, and as a man of very superior mental endowments, a man whose like, as a philosopher, politician, and monarch, even his enemies admit, was never known before in this quarter of the globe.

Napoleon Buonaparte from his infancy to his arrival at St. Helena, enjoyed an uninterrupted state of good health.—His mind was of an active turn, but his body was of that cool temperament, that neither corporeal nor mental fatigue disturbed his general health. It has been said, that in consequence of the want of sleep, during an active campaign, he experienced an epileptic fit; but we have reason to believe that the report was not correct. His mode of living was extremely abstemious. His breakfast and evening repast consisted of coffee and biscuit, and for dinner he made choice of the most simple dishes. When a roasted shoulder of mutton appeared on the table, which was frequently the case, in consequence of his partiality to it being known, he generally made his dinner of it. Of wine he took very sparingly, and to spirits he had a great dislike.

After residing some months on the island of St. Helena, he sometimes experienced symptoms of indigestion, which his medical attendant attributed chiefly to the influence of the climate, a sedentary life, and mental inquietude, although the latter was by no means apparent, for he slept soundly, and he conversed coolly on the political changes which had taken place in Europe; and when speaking of the events which were most likely to disturb his mind, he appeared to be cheerful.

He indeed seemed to be too well acquainted with human life, to feel the difference between a monarch and a prisoner. A retrospective view of his political career was a source of comfort to him, and he often observed, he only wished to reign in France as long as he could support her independence, and contribute to her happiness. On the dismissal of Mr. Stokoe (of whose professional abilities and integrity he entertained the highest opinion), by the English government, Dr. O'Meara was appointed his physician and surgeon. This gentleman also enjoyed his implicit confidence; but, it seems, the *attention* and respect the Doctor paid his patient, did not meet with the approbation of the Governor of the island, and the Commissioners appointed by the *Holy* Alliance, to watch his motions and attend to his wants. A medical attendant was in consequence appointed by his Holiness the Pope, who very judiciously sent a confessor with him. To the surgeon, M. Antommarchi, we had the honor of being introduced, during his short stay in London. He was an excellent anatomist, but with the practice of surgery and physic he appeared to us to be unacquainted.

Napoleon Buonaparte was so perfectly satisfied, with the first view of the gentlemen the Pope had so kindly appointed to superintend his material and immaterial parts, that he declined to give them any further trouble.

Napoleon Buonaparte, even during the most active part of his political career, paid attention, not only to the Medical Institutions of France, but also to the science of medicine. He appeared to be well acquainted with the prevailing medical theories in England, and often ridiculed the hepatic doctrines, and the fashion of administering calomel, under the idea that all diseases arise from a morbid condition of

the liver. Often on consulting Mr. Stokoe, he has observed with a smile, "A little calomel, I suppose, Mr. Stokoe?" When Mr. Antommarchi, the Italian surgeon, was first introduced to him, he gave him one of his usual penetrating looks, and after a short conversation, his countenance and conduct seemed to say,

"Let Galen moulder on the shelf,
"I'll be physician to myself."

Napoleon, for three years after his captivity, continued to enjoy a pretty good state of health. About two years before his death, he complained of not being equal to his usual exercise, evidently in consequence of corpulency, and the relaxing influence of the climate. In the short walk which he was in the habit of taking to his favourite spot, where his mortal remains are deposited, he often sat down, and when in this state, he has frequently observed, "*this climate will soon put an end to my worldly concerns*, and set at liberty those poor fellows who are kept here to guard me."

About the 17th of March last, he complained of indigestion and general lassitude. M. Antommarchi continued to visit him regularly for about a fortnight, when, in consequence of the complaint of the stomach, and general debility increasing, he expressed a wish of having further medical advice. The Governor, Sir Hudson Lowe, on being acquainted with his wish, and the alarming nature of his malady, with the *humanity* for which he has always been particularly distinguished, acquiesced. A Dr. Arnott was accordingly desired to meet M. Antommarchi, and this physician continued to visit him daily till the day of his dissolution. Dr. Short and a Dr. Mitchell, principal medical officers of the royal navy, on the station, also met Antommarchi in consultation, *two days* previously to his death; but they were not allowed, or, as Sir Hudson Lowe observes, had not the *opportunity* of seeing him!! Sir Hudson visited his apartments, with some British officers on the station, the Commissioners of the Holy Alliance, and a few of Napoleon's domestics, the morning after his death, to ascertain if his immortal part had really quitted its earthly tenement. This visit, we are told, was truly affecting. Sir Hudson viewed the body with the coolness of a stoic, whilst some remained petrified with a kind of wondering grief. At two o'clock his body was opened by Antommarchi, in the presence of Drs. Short, Mitchell, Arnott and Burton, and Surgeon Livingstone, after which, the following statement of the appearances on dissection was drawn up, and sent to Sir Hudson Lowe, for the information of the courts of Europe:

Longwood, St. Helena, May 6, 1821.

On a superficial view, the body appeared *very fat*, which state was confirmed by the first incision down its centre, where the fat was upwards of one inch and a half over the abdomen. On cutting through the cartilages of the ribs, and exposing the cavity of the chest, a *trifling* adhesion of the left pleura was found to the pleura costalis. About *three ounces of reddish fluid were contained in the left cavity, and nearly eight ounces in the right.* The lungs were *quite sound.* The pericardium was natural, and contained about an ounce of fluid.

"The heart was of the *natural* size, but thickly covered with fat. The auricles and ventricles exhibited nothing extraordinary, except that the muscular parts appeared *rather paler* than natural.

" Upon opening the abdomen the omentum was found remarkably fat, and on exposing the stomach, that viscus was found the seat of extensive disease. *Strong adhesions connected* the whole *superior surface, particularly* about the pyloric extremity, to the concave surface of the left lobe of *the liver;* and on separating these, an *ulcer, which penetrated the coats of the stomach,* was discovered *one inch from* the *pylorus,* sufficient to allow the passage of the *little* finger. The internal surface of the stomach, to *nearly its whole extent,* was a mass of *cancerous* disease or *scirrhous* portions advancing to cancer: this was *particularly* noticed *near* the pylorus. The *cardiac* extremity, for a small space near the termination of the œsophagus, (the gullet) was the only part appearing in a healthy state. The stomach was found nearly filled with a *large quantity of fluid,* resembling coffee grounds.

" The convex surface of the left lobe of the liver adhered to the diaphragm. With the *exception* of the adhesions occasioned by the disease in the stomach, no *unhealthy appearance presented itself in the liver.* The remainder of the abdominal viscera were in a healthy state. A slight peculiarity in the formation of the left kidney was observed.

(Signed) THOMAS SHORT, M.D. a Principal Medical Officer.
ARCH. ARNOTT, M.D. Surgeon 20th Regiment.
CHARLES MITCHELL, M.D. Surgeon of H.M.S. Vigo.
FRANCIS BURTON, M.D. Surgeon 66th Regiment.
MATTHEW LIVINGSTONE, Surgeon H. C. Service."

The morbid appearances noticed in this report, not confirming the opinion Dr. O'Meara had given, that the liver of Napoleon Buonaparte was diseased, that gentleman addressed the following letter to the Editor of the Morning Chronicle for publication:

" SIR, London, July 8, 1821.

" *The Courier* of the 4th inst. having stated that Napoleon died of a ' cancer in the stomach,' and that he ordered his body to be opened, ' as he suspected that he was dying of the same disease which killed his father,' I conceive myself imperatively called upon to make some observations, as well upon these assertions, as upon a letter fabricated by some anonymous calumniator, for the purpose of depreciating my character, by stating that ' all the surgeons present agreed that no liver complaint had ever existed,' and also upon the statements officially promulgated in last night's *Gazette.*

" It is stated by the Governor of St. Helena, in his dispatch, that Napoleon died on the 5th of May, of an illness which confined him to his apartments since the 17th of March last, and farther says, that the body was opened the following day, in the presence of five English medical officers (all of them belonging either to the army or the navy), that Professor Antommarchi assisted at the dissection; and that after a careful examination of the several internal parts of the body, the *whole* of the medical gentlemen present concurred in a Report on their appearance, which Report, he adds, is inclosed.

" The Report states the stomach to have been found the seat of extensive disease, that strong adhesions connected the whole of the superior surface, particularly about the pyloric extremity, to the concave surface of the left lobe of the liver; on separating these, an ulcer which penetrated the coats of the stomach was discovered, &c. The internal

surface of the stomach to nearly its whole extent, was a mass of cancerous disease, or scirrhous portions, advancing to cancer, &c. The *convex* surface of the left lobe of the liver adhered to the diaphragm. With the exception of the adhesion occasioned by the disease in the stomach, no unhealthy appearance presented itself in the liver.

"It is very important first to observe, that this Report *is not signed* by Professor Antommarchi, although the Governor asserts that the *whole* of the medical gentlemen concurred in a *Report* on their appearance; and nextly I assert, without dread of contradiction, that *no man ever saw an instance of cancer of the stomach proceeding through all its stages, from its commencement to death, in seven weeks and one day.* Cancer of the stomach is a tedious, lingering disease, keeping the patient in torture for months; but here we have the *stomach to nearly its whole extent, a mass of cancerous disease in seven weeks!!!*

"The Report then states, that 'with the exception of the adhesions occasioned by the disease in the stomach, no unhealthy appearance presented itself in the liver.' What then was the cause of the adhesions of the *convex* surface of that viscus to the diaphragm, that is to say, the *opposite* side of the lobe which adhered to the stomach? The merest tyro in medicine is not ignorant that inflammatory affections of the liver and other viscera, although long continued, frequently terminate by a gradual abatement of all the symptoms, till at last the viscus is *wholly restored* to its *natural* size, colour, and functions. Very generally, however, *adhesions* are formed to some of the neighbouring parts, which are permanent until death. Such was the case with Napoleon, in whom an adhesion was formed between the upper and convex surface of the *left* lobe to the diaphragm, by the inflammation of the liver, with which he was afflicted at the time of my attendance upon him in 1818.

"With respect to the assertion of *hereditary* cancer, promulgated through a *fabricated letter by those who had the Gazette Report in their possession*, it is too contemptible to be seriously refuted. No respectable ancient author ever mentioned, no modern practitioner ever met with such a disease—it is a desperate experiment practised upon public credulity, too gross to impose upon the most uninformed, but naturally enough to be hazarded by those who are willing to impute the death of the victim to *any other* cause rather than the *true* one. It is only surprising that they have not followed it up by a calculation of how many years may elapse before the stomach of young Napoleon is to enter upon its paternal inheritance. The story is too ridiculous for argument, and those who have fabricated it, might just as well assert the existence of hereditary drunkenness, or hereditary *murder*, or any other moral depravity which may happen to be uppermost in their memories.

"I do not assert positively the proximate cause of the death of Napoleon; that can only be known with certainty to the Almighty Disposer of life and death; but I assert, unhesitatingly, that it was *hastened* by the treatment he experienced—by his transportation to a tropical climate *—by the petty vexations inflicted in his imprisonment—by the numberless minute and studied mortifications, which none but a mind like his could have endured,—and at length by that derangement of the digestive orguns which mental anxiety invariably produces.* Such is my opinion, not originating in the indignation of the moment, but formed and deli-

berated long ago, and delivered by me *in language not to be misunderstood*, at two different periods of Napoleon's detention. I told his Majesty's Ministers, emphatically, that if the same treatment was continued, 'his premature death' might not be so immediate, but was quite as inevitable as if it had taken place under the hands of the 'executioner.' To these documents I now direct the eyes of Europe, as the testimonies of my judgment, and to the *event* I point, for the accuracy with which it was formed.

"Having now, Sir, stated my unequivocal opinion upon the cause of Napoleon's death, which I am prepared to justify before England and Europe, it may not be irrelevant to state a few words about myself, as a *coward calumny* has commenced its work, and I am well aware of what essential consequence personal character is under such circumstances. From my boyhood up I have been in the service of his Majesty, and to every officer under whom I served, in various climates, and at different intervals, I refer, without hesitation, both as to my moral conduct and professional pretensions. I ask any of them whether he can, with justice, contradict the following testimony from the Captain of the Bellerophon (from which ship I entered the service of Napoleon) to Doctor Harness?

"Dear Sir,—The attention and meritorious conduct of Mr. Barry O'Meara, while surgeon with me in the Goliath, calls upon me, as an act of justice to him, and of benefit to the service, to state, that during the fifteen years I have commanded one of his Majesty's ships, I have never had the pleasure of sailing with an officer in his situation, who so fully met my expectations. Were it probable that I should soon obtain another appointment, I know of no man in the service I should wish to have as surgeon, so much as Mr. O'Meara.

(Signed) "FREDERICK L. MAITLAND."

"Sir, when I entered into the service of Napoleon, I did so at his own solicitation, and, with the full concurrence of the Admiralty. Once in that service, I considered it my duty, in every possible way, to mitigate the misfortunes of the Illustrious Captive. I scorned to become the instrument of *subaltern* tyranny, and endeavoured to avert, as far as in me lay, the countless, miserable, petty-fogging vexations with which he was assailed, after the departure of that gallant officer, Sir George Cockburn. For this I was, at a few hours' notice, banished from St. Helena, with the loss of some property, and not without the plunder of my personal effects; for this I was dismissed from the service on which my bread depended, without accusation, and without trial; for this I am, up to this day, persecuted and calumniated by men, who have blackened a page in the history of England; for this, however, I am satisfied to endure much more, satisfied that I have sought, though vainly, to save my country from disgrace, and trust that I, at least, can think, without remorse, upon the grave of Napoleon.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"BARRY E. O'MEARA."

"*Extract of a Letter to John Wilson Croker, Esq. Secretary to the Admiralty, dated Kennington, October* 28, 1818.—It is my opinion that the life of Napoleon Buonaparte will be endangered by a longer residence in such a climate as that of St. Helena, especially if that re-

sidence be aggravated by a continuance of those disturbances and irritations to which he has been hitherto subjected, and of which it is the nature of his distemper to render him peculiarly susceptible.

(Signed) "B. E. O'MEARA, late Surgeon to Napoleon."

(COPY.)

"Lyon's Inn, Strand, June 19, 1821.

"My Lord,—I have been informed by many respectable persons who have lately arrived from St. Helena, that it was a matter of public notoriety in that island, that Napoleon Buonaparte laboured under a disease of a very formidable nature, and one which, if relief was long withheld, was likely to terminate his existence at no very distant period. This has been confirmed to me by the testimony of the venerable Ecclesiastic who was compelled by infirmities to quit Napoleon's service in March last, and who was imprisoned for a week on board the Flamer, denied permission to land, and sent off to the Continent; and I have also been informed, that Napoleon has intimated a wish for medical assistance from Europe, and that such wish has been communicated to your Lordship.

"Under such circumstances, I conceive it a duty I owe to my country and to myself, to inform your Lordship, that as I had more frequent opportunities of making myself acquainted with the peculiarities of Napoleon's constitution during the three years I had the honour of being attached to him, than any other medical person who may consent to share his exile, I conceive it would be unpardonable in me not to tender my services to him through your Lordship, when it is within the bounds of possibility that (without pretending to any superior medical knowledge) I might be able to render him greater relief in his present distressing situation, than would be afforded by one, who, however he might be superior in talent, was unacquainted with the constitution of his patient.

"Your Lordship will do me the justice to recollect, that the crisis which has now actually arrived was predicted by me, and officially communicated to the Admiralty. After my return from St. Helena, in October, 1818, a very short period has too fatally verified an opinion which it required only common skill to pronounce, and which common honesty commanded me to promulgate. The *premature* death of Napoleon under such circumstances may not be so instantaneous, but is certainly as inevitable as if it took place by the hands of the *executioner*.

"I have further to acquaint your Lordship, that, should my offer be acceded to, I am ready to submit to such restrictions during my abode in St. Helena, as may not be derogatory to the principles of a man of honour, and also that I desire no remuneration from his Majesty's Government, either for the expenses of my passage, or during the time my attendance on Napoleon may be deemed serviceable.

"I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

"BARRY E. O'MEARA, Surgeon.

"To the Right Honourable the Earl Bathurst, &c. &c."

"A refusal was the reply to this."

After the first interview Dr. O'Meara had with Napoleon Buonaparte, he confirmed the opinion which had been previously given by Mr. Stokoe, that his liver was diseased. Now, had this been the case, the affection

must have been of a chronic nature; indeed, it was understood from their representations, that it was the disease to which Europeans are liable on residing in a tropical climate. In such cases morbid changes take place in the substance of the viscus, and the disease is often rendered quiescent by mercury, so as to induce the patient to suppose he is cured. The morbid structure is, however, never completely removed, a vestige of it always appearing on dissection. The substance of the liver of Napoleon being free from any appearance indicating previous structural disease; it is clear to us that the opinion given by Dr. O'Meara and Mr. Stokoe, was not correct. Structural disease of the liver never terminates in adhesion of the peritoneal covering to the part with which it may be in contact. Had even the peritoneal membrane been affected with chronic inflammation, which is common in Europe, but very rare in a tropical climate, this species never entirely terminates in adhesion; and we believe it always occurs in the membrane covering the convex part of the *right* lobe, and not in that of the concavity of the *left* lobe. That the organic disease of the stomach, which terminated the life of Napoleon, originated in the liver, and terminated in adhesion to the peritoneal covering of the stomach, and that it afterwards spread through its substance, is totally out of the question. The case is, navy and army surgeons are too apt to attribute all complaints, in or about the region of the stomach, to a morbid condition of the liver, and if the patient is, or has been, in a tropical climate, even if the complaint should be situated in an extremity, it is attributed to diseased liver.

According to their doctrines, as well as those of many leading physicians and surgeons in this country, the liver is of such great importance in the animal economy, that in the treatment of all constitutional and local diseases the attention of the practitioner is to be directed to it only. It is, in their opinion, the source of vitality and the residence of the soul; and when mercury succeeds in affording relief, it is to them a convincing proof that their opinion was correct; as if the remedy acted on no other part of the body than the liver!!

The absurdity of this liver or bile mania, to which many thousand lives fall a sacrifice annually, has been very judiciously exposed by Dr. Dods, an eminent physician of Worcester, in a late publication, entitled, The Physician's Guide. Fortunately for many invalids, the blue pill, with a stomachic and an aperient occasionally, is applicable to a great variety of chronic diseases of the abdominal and thoracic viscera; and had Napoleon remained under the care of Dr. O'Meara, he would probably at this time have been in possession of health. That mental uneasiness, even in a tropical climate, is capable of producing a formidable disease of the stomach, is also out of the question. It might favour the operation of an exciting cause, and its progress, after it had taken place; but is certainly incapable of bringing it into action. The effects of mental perturbation on the body are emaciation and irritability of the nervous system. From these symptoms Napoleon was free, for he always slept soundly, and was very corpulent. Corpulency is a strong proof of cheerfulness of mind;—"laugh and grow fat," is an old and very true adage.

If lassitude, &c. of which Napoleon complained, arose from mental uneasiness, as intimated by those who had the protection of him, it was

an act worthy such a generous and noble-minded man as Sir Hudson Lowe, to deprive him of the professional assistance of a gentleman in whose abilities he placed implicit confidence, merely because he gave him the title of Emperor, and listened patiently to his narratives. By administering comfort to the mind of an invalid, and by soothing his ears even by flattery, the efficacy of medicine is augmented; and this we conceive to be the duty of every medical man; and we presume no English surgeon would allow a person unacquainted with medicine to point out a line of conduct for him to pursue in the treatment of a patient.

The separation from his wife and child, and banishment to an unhealthy climate, should have at least satisfied the representatives of monarchs, who had agreed to establish laws for the government of their subjects on the basis of Christianity, under the denomination of "the Holy Alliance," without requiring the co-operation of his medical attendant to diminish his comforts, or make him feel the humiliation to which the chance of war had reduced him. They should have recollected his conduct towards their masters, when the chance of war placed them within his power.

From the morbid appearances the internal surface of the stomach exhibited, viz. "nearly the whole extent of the *internal* surface a mass of cancerous disease," there can be no doubt of the original seat of the disease. It evidently commenced in the internal surface of the stomach. The adhesion between the external surface of the stomach and liver is a common attendant on ulceration of the stomach, for it very rarely happens that its contents escape into the cavity of the abdomen from an ulcerated aperture. The part of the stomach, between the pyloric and cardiac extremities, it is stated, was a mass of disease, scirrhous and cancerous. Now the parts of the stomach most subject to scirrhosity and cancerous ulceration are the pyloric and cardiac extremities: scirrhosity of the stomach is a slow disease, and when advanced to ulceration, is always attended with the most acute pain; but in the case of Napoleon, we are told, there was little pain, and the progress of the disease to ulceration was evidently very rapid.

During scirrhosity of the stomach, the body becomes emaciated, and when ulceration has taken place, the emaciation advances rapidly, and the patient is affected with hectic fever; but in the case of Napoleon Buonaparte, the body was overloaded with fat, and he was free from fever.

Corpulency we consider a proof of the stomach being capable of converting the food it receives into chyme, and we cannot suppose that the stomach, when organically diseased, can perform its functions better than in a state of health. The exciting cause or agent in the case of Napoleon evidently acted, in the first instance, on the *internal* surface of the stomach. What then, we beg to ask, was that exciting cause? Even admitting that he did inherit from his parents, a predisposition to scirrhosity, we are to look for the cause which brought it into action. Was it the use of a stimulating regimen? Of wine he took very sparingly, he never touched a spirit; and his dishes were the most simple. It is well known that he had never been an epicure nor a glutton, and that he never indulged to any thing like excess in the use of spirituous or

vinous liquors. It is clear then that the exciting cause cannot be discovered in his mode of living. Did the disease come into action in consequence of advanced age? Certainly not, because he had only just passed the meridian of life. That scirrhosity of the stomach is an hereditary disease we do not believe.

Dr. O'Meara boldly asserts, that his dissolution was accelerated by the treatment which had been adopted. Was then the disease excited by any particular medicine, or any particular Italian practice? Of late years the professors of Italy have been very liberal in administering vegetable and mineral poisons; and from time immemorial, a remedy has been employed, in that country, in desperate cases, to *quiet* the system. In producing the desired effect, it is slow but sure. It has been very successfully exhibited in those peculiar cases which are transmitted, not by parents to their offspring, but by one potentate to another. We have heard much of the *Aqua toffana*, the *sacred* water of succession, the levigated diamond, and of Italian soups.

Professor Antommarchi is a very honourable man, and for many years was much devoted to Napoleon. He is also a native of Corsica, and highly respected by Napoleon's family.

Another very extraordinary appearance in the case of Napoleon, was the accumulation of *reddish* serum, to the extent of eight ounces, in one cavity of the chest, the lungs and the pleura being healthy!! The medical attendants have, however, not yet condescended to favour us with the symptoms which attended the progress of his malady. These, with other informations, particularly the reason why Antommarchi's name was not added to the statement, made by the English practitioners who were present at the time of the dissection, of the morbid appearances of the stomach, &c. which was transmitted to this country by Sir Hudson Lowe, we hope to be able to give in our next Number. At present, the case, as transmitted to us, is involved in much mystery.

THE TEETH.—So little attention has been paid to the causes and treatment of the diseases of the teeth by the regular surgeons of this country, that the treatment of them has been, by a general consent of the faculty, resigned to a set of men, denominated dentists, not one out of twenty of whom knows more of the structure, &c. of a tooth than the finely decorated servants they employ to present the cards of the applicants or advice. The impositions which are daily practised in this metropolis by this ignorant class, in tooth powders, lotions, brushes, scaling the teeth, &c. &c. exceed even those of the most daring quacks, who pretend to possess an infallible remedy for all the diseases incident to man.

To the dentifrices (powders, lotions, and pastes) advertised under a variety of imposing names, as certain preventives of disease, &c. &c. the frequency of caries, spongy state of the gums, looseness and painful affections of the nerves connected with the teeth, is solely attributable.

We have much pleasure in announcing a very valuable "Essay on the Disorders and Treatment of the Teeth," from the pen of Mr. Eleazar Parmly, a scientific dentist, of St. James's Street, London, which is well calculated to put an end to dentifrice quackery. In this little tract Mr. Parmly very ably points out the several duties of a dentist. The

author has visited America and France, to collect information of the treatment of the teeth, and has also attended the practice of the most eminent dentists of London, with the same view; and after giving the different practices a trial, he has detailed those modes of operating in cases of decayed and loose teeth, irregularity in their arrangement, &c. &c. which he is satisfied may be adopted "with prudence and safety."

Though to a superficial observer the teeth may appear to be a part of the body, which is little deserving of regard, yet those, who consider the many functions, which the teeth have to perform, must allow that their claims on our attention are as many and as strong, as those of any other part of the human frame: without teeth," says Mr. Parmly, "we cannot in a proper manner prepare our food; without teeth, man's peculiar attribute of speech, is rendered not only imperfect, but even disagreeable: in short, without teeth, a countenance, in every other respect the most perfect, loses all its symmetry and character. Such instruments must merit, and, consequently, will obtain, the greatest attention from every thinking mind. Those means should be studied, therefore, which may tend to preserve them in their original perfection, and every argument used to impress upon the minds of society at large, the importance and necessity of having recourse thereto, whenever circumstances may require their aid." To point out these means is the object of Mr. P.'s Essay.

Mr. Parmly has divided the subject into sections. The 1st embraces dentition and the treatment of the first teeth; the 2d, the changing of the teeth, with the treatment; the 3d, the cause and removal of tartarous concretions; the 4th, caries; the 5th, the denuding process; the 6th, tooth-ache, and the effect of diseased teeth on the stomach, lungs, and general health; the 7th, the operation of scaling or cleaning the teeth; the 8th, the destroying the nerve of the teeth; the 9th, of the extraction of the teeth; the 10th, the means of remedying irregularities; the 11th, the means of applying ligatures; the 12th, artificial teeth.

The following remarks, taken from the chapter on dentition, will enable our readers to form an opinion of the abilities of our author.

"The efforts which the teeth make to unfold themselves naturally produce a powerful tension and pressure on the gums, and thus give rise to irritation and pain. The gums become swelled and inflamed; the saliva is constantly discharged from the mouth; and the whole frame seems to labour under the influence of fever.

"It is proper, therefore, that every parent should be aware of the consequences which may ensue, in order that they may have recourse to those means which experience has found to be most successful in affording relief. This can be obtained only by lessening the pressure of the tooth on the gum. To accomplish this, the child is generally allowed some hard substance to rub thereon; but this, although it may give a temporary relief, tends in the end to increase the irritation. Gentle friction with the finger will be found to afford more relief, and may be rendered still more effectual by the use of a little fine salt, or any other substance, which will cause a discharge, and thereby reduce the internal inflammatory action of the vessels.

"Scarification, however, appears to be the safest expedient that can

be had recourse to. This is performed by the point of a lancet being pressed down upon the tooth until the gum and investing membrane be fully divided. The pressure being by this means taken off the child will experience instantaneous relief. Parents should be cautious how they give way to any vulgar prejudice against an operation by which many have been freed from the most dangerous symptoms.

"Dentition is often accompanied by fever of an inflammatory nature. The cheeks become flushed; the eyes heavy, and the skin hot and parched; the rest is broken and the appetite lost; and if timely assistance be not had recourse to, convulsions will sometimes suddenly come on, and have been known not unfrequently to terminate fatally.

"The mildest effort which marks the interposition of nature, is the appearance of numerous eruptions on the skin: the period of dentition marks their true nature, and they are never removed or cured until the cause ceases to exist.

"Such is the progress of the first set of teeth, which, if proper attention be observed, occasion only a small degree of temporary pain and irritation."

We have no hesitation in saying that a perusal of this work will satisfy the reader that it is the production not only of a skilful dentist, but, what is of no less consequence, an honest man; a man who wishes to communicate the information he has collected at a considerable labour and expense, for the benefit of his fellow-creatures.

CANCEROUS ULCERATION.—Dr. Sweindeur, a German Physician of considerable eminence, informs us that he has found the following composition, thinly sprinkled over, or applied by means of a camel hair brush to, the surface of cancerous and foul spreading ulcers every other day, to occasion a complete separation of the diseased parts, and to leave a healthy granulated surface, which heals rapidly with a simple dressing.

Take of Prussiate of Iron, finely powdered, half an ounce;
Fresh Hemlock Leaves, finely powdered, two drachms;
to be well mixed together.

In some cases he has found it necessary to apply to the surface a weak ointment of acetated copper.

After the application of the powder, he covered the part, and the inflamed skin surrounding it, with a poultice composed of

Fine Oatmeal, six parts;
Linseed Powder, two parts;
Finely powdered Charcoal, one part;
Yeast, one part; and a sufficient quantity of water to form a poultice.

He attended to the general health, prescribing Peruvian bark, sulphuric acid, and carbonate of iron, where the disease was attended with indigestion and general lassitude. When attended with fever, the saline mixture, in a state of effervescence, to the extent of a quart, daily, or in quantity to act on the bowels was employed.

For the beneficial effects of the topical application of iron, in cases of cancerous and foul spreading ulcerations, the Doctor states he is indebted to Mr. Carmichael, an eminent surgeon of Dublin.

He has been induced to employ the prussiate of iron, &c. in pre-

ference to the phosphate and oxyphosphate of iron, recommended by Mr. Carmichael, because the composition excites neither pain nor inflammation in the surrounding healthy parts.

GUTTA SERENA.—The following cases of this disease successfully treated by galvanism, we received from Mr. La Beaume:

Case 1st.—Mr. J., about 30 years of age, of a spare habit and nervous temperament, was seized with blindness supposed to have been occasioned by a previous state of ill health, from too great attention to his business, which was that of a gun-smith, and from working late hours by candle-light. The disease was preceded by indigestion. Torpor of the liver and bowels, head-ache, and a long train of distressing symptoms occasioned by the deranged functions of the chylopoietic organs. About three years ago, on finding his health rapidly declining and his sight almost gone, he placed himself under the care of several respectable practitioners, who all in their different modes of treatment failed both to benefit his general health and to improve his visual powers. Among the remedies employed were mercurials, bleeding, general and local blisters, various stimulating applications to the eyes, &c., none of which seemed to render him any service. He then placed himself under an eminent oculist, whose mode of treatment was attended with the most beneficial results in regard to his general health, though his vision experienced no improvement. He was therefore sent to me on the 22d of February, 1820, for the employment of the galvanic influence as the dernier resort of all medical remedies. On the first visit, this patient stated to me that he found great difficulty in making his way from one room to another, not being able to see a single object distinctly.

Immediately after the first topical application of galvanism, he felt considerably benefited; the optic nerve was excited, and he distinctly saw the houses on the opposite side of the square. The third visit rapidly urged on his recovery, and on the fourth administration of the galvanic influence he obtained most decided benefit. He distinctly saw the colours of his hearth-rug by twilight, and the following three applications of galvanism perfectly restored his sight. On his last visit he told me that he could again work by candle-light, and without any difficulty distinguish silver and platina wires of the smallest dimensions, and which are nearly of the same colour. One particular fact deserving notice was, that the local application of galvanism to the eye had a powerful effect on his bowels, and the alvine discharge always indicated a greater biliary secretion on the day after the use of the galvanism than had ever been produced by mercurial purges.

Case 2d.—A young gentleman of fortune, about twenty-five years of age, and of a sanguine temperament, was recommended to me by the same practitioner as in the former case. He became blind of the right eye in consequence of a violent blow. Constitutional and topical remedies were employed with advantage, but the paralysis of the optic nerve continued. The pupil of the eye was considerably dilated, and he could not perceive any object distinctly; in short, he lost all useful sight by the accident.

The galvanism was employed daily from the 5th to the 14th January 1820, and afterwards occasionally to the 16th February, same year, when he fully and perfectly regained his sight.

I have recently heard of him through a particular friend of his, who informed me that he continued to enjoy perfect vision.

Case 3d.—B—— G——, Esq. about 75 years of age, an eminent medical practitioner, who had the greater part of his life enjoyed a robust and vigorous state of health during a long country practice of fifty years, found that his health, about ten years since, began to decline, when he suffered much from a severe bilious attack, passed gall stones, and subsequently laboured under a chronic affection of the liver and obstruction of the bowels. Soon after an attack of jaundice, he began gradually to lose the sight of his right eye; and after various modes of treatment, he became quite blind of that eye. From that time his general health, and the sight of his left eye, became so much impaired, that he was obliged to use the strongest magnifiers in order to see any small object distinctly, and without them he was not able to discern any large object at the distance of a few yards. Mr. G. having consulted several oculists without advantage, was recommended to me by his son, who is also a medical practitioner of great respectability, and I treated his case as one of defective energy of the optic nerve, arising from a disordered state of the biliary organs. It was therefore my object to restore the digestive organs, which I stated to my patient would be productive of the most beneficial effects in increasing the visual powers of the left eye; but as to regaining the sight of the right eye, I did not entertain the slightest expectation whatever. Mr. G. submitted to my plan of treatment on the 1st June 1820, and he had recourse to galvanism and the mildest aperient for a few days. He attended to the rules laid down as to diet, and after the third visit, he informed me that his digestion was considerably improved, that his bowels acted freely, that the left eye acquired vigour, and that he was enabled to see across the street distinctly. After the sixth application of galvanism to the abdominal viscera, my patient surprised me not a little, by informing me that happening accidentally to close his left eye, he was greatly astonished to find that the right eye, which had been useless for several years, was restored to sight, and that he saw with that eye much better than the one which had been less affected with blindness. He continued with me about a fortnight longer, during which period, his general health, and his visual powers were so much restored, that he could see better without his glasses than he ever did with them, and we, therefore, did not deem it necessary for him to persevere any longer in the treatment which had been, in his case, employed with such remarkable benefit. Two trials of the galvanism, as topical applications, to gratify the wish of my patient, convinced him, as I had before stated, that the local application of any stimulating remedy, would not, in his case, be available, because I conceived his blindness had been occasioned by a disordered state of the alimentary canal, and was the effect of some distant disturbance in the system, affecting the nervous and sensorial power with a high degree of functional derangement. I have the pleasure to add that I have very recently heard of Mr. G.'s continuing to retain the benefit he had obtained.

These are a few of the many remarkable recoveries, which I have witnessed in my practice, and though gutta serena has been generally considered a hopeless disease, I am inclined to think that wrong medical

treatment, and injudicious topical applications, even of electricity and galvanism, have often led to that erroneous conclusion. When it is not the result of a confirmed structural or organic disease of the eye, or of the brain; but where the loss of sensorial power is the consequence of the loss of nervous power; and where the complaint is secondary and symptomatic, and perpetuated by a morbid state of the alimentary canal, affecting the head, and impairing the senses, I am perfectly satisfied, that it is remediable by a proper medical and dietetic plan of treatment, with a judicious application of electricity or galvanism, either as a constitutional or a local application.

EPSOM SALT.—On chemically examining this salt, made at a sea-port by decomposing sea-water, we find it, although the crystals are very white and transparent, to contain iron. In cases of debility of the stomach, attended with an indolent state of the bowels, and of habitual costiveness, we have found this salt very beneficial, and it is unquestionably very superior to the Cheltenham Salt, or the powder sold under the name of the "Chalybeate Aperient." The former, as prepared by one proprietor, is the common Glauber's Salt, and the latter a composition of Epsom Salt and Glauber's Salt. Neither of them contains iron, although industriously advertised under the name of the "Chalybeate Aperient." Glauber's Salt is more unpleasant to the taste, and in its effects on the stomach and intestines, than the Epsom Salt, and the latter is therefore by no means improved by the addition of the former. The dose of the Epsom Salt with iron is from one to three drachms, in a quarter of a pint of water, occasionally.

DR. PHILIP'S EXPERIMENTS.—Dr. Uwins, who attended the experiments recently made by Dr. Philip, in the presence of the President and many Members of the Royal Institution (noticed in our last Number), to ascertain the influence of the eighth pair of nerves in promoting digestion, and the identity of the subtile fluid, conducted from the brain, by the nerves termed nervous, and that denominated galvanic fluid, has published the following short account of the results:

"After having noticed the different allegations and opinions of different experimentalists and physiologists, on the subject of nervous influence, and the consequences immediately following the division of the eighth pair of nerves in the neck, we think it but an act of bare justice to Dr. Philip, to state, that as far, at least, as relates to the effect of such division upon respiration and digestion, he has lately obtained a complete triumph over his opponents, by some experiments recently instituted at the Royal Institution, in Albemarle Street, and which we had an opportunity of witnessing in all their detail. It should seem, that the discrepancies of observation that had obtained among several philosophers on this point, in a great measure, arose from some of the experimentalists having confined themselves to the mere *division* of the nerve, without carefully insuring a permanent separation of the divided ends; and in the animals thus treated, the functions of the lungs and stomach were not interfered with, in any thing like the measure that will now, we believe, be allowed invariably to happen, when the separation is thus made actual and complete.

"It is, by the way, a curious fact, that nervous influence may thus, at least, partially obtain from mere mechanical (not organic union

of the severed extremities of a nervous chord—a fact which Dr. Philip will, we think, be disposed to seize, for the purpose of strengthening his favourite assumption, that nervous power and galvanism are one and the same thing. Respecting this hypothesis, however, we have nothing at present to say, and shall content ourselves with merely stating, without allowing that we are converts to the doctrine, that one of the most forcible objections, (as it always appeared to us,) adduced by Dr. Monro against the identity of nervous agency and electricity, appears, by the circumstance adverted to, to be disarmed of its power; the objection is this, that while the divided ends of a wire, brought into contact, will communicate the electric impulse, the nervous power, lost by such division, cannot thus be restored."

ARTIFICIAL CLIMATE.—Mr. Thomas Andrew Knight, the scientific President of the Horticultural Society, has lately published the following account of a new mode of preserving an equable and salutary temperature of the air of a room, and a case of strong predisposition to consumption, in which it effectually answered in keeping off the disease. The patient who was the subject of this mode of treatment, had been perfectly healthy, though her appearance was delicate from her birth until she was married and had one child. Her appearance then, in her nineteenth year, became consumptive; and within a few weeks afterwards, a sudden and very considerable discharge of blood, apparently from her lungs, but too plainly pointed out the nature of her complaint. It was proposed immediately to convey her to a southern climate; but owing to some events this was not done. She passed the first winter in rooms which were kept warm, and of as equal temperature as circumstances would permit; but there was a necessity for several blisters, and the application of leeches. In the succeeding summer her health and strength appeared somewhat to improve; but at the end of the following winter, she was so much emaciated and reduced by a long-continued discharge of blood from her lungs, the effects of her feverish state, that the affliction appeared hopeless. Mr. Knight had the consolation to find that her physician did not despond. He pronounced decisively that, if she remained another winter in the climate of England, her death was inevitable; but he expressed his hope and belief, that, if she could be placed in a situation where she could have the benefit, during eighteen successive months, of a climate as favourable as the best part of an English summer, she would recover her health and strength, and be subsequently able to bear an English winter, though her lungs could never wholly regain their former power. Measures were accordingly taken to convey her abroad; but Mr. Knight found in her a settled conviction, that she should go, never to return, and that her remaining strength was wholly unequal to the necessary exertion. Under these circumstances, Mr. Knight thought only of giving her, as practicable, the warm and temperate climate at home; and having been much in the habit of making such climates for plants, he looked forward with some hope, though with trembling anxiety, to the result. He stated to her physician his confidence, that he could give to the air of the rooms in which he proposed she should pass the winter, such a degree of humidity, (she breathed most freely in somewhat damp weather) as should be found best to agree with her, and any temperature with little variation, which he should

think likely to be most beneficial; and the following plan was adopted, with (under existing circumstances) his most unqualified approbation. A flue of sufficient power, and surrounded by an air chamber of just sufficient dimensions to permit a person to go round the flue, to ascertain that no smoke escaped into this air chamber, was constructed only of brick-work; space being prepared to receive garden pots, to be filled with wetted sand, to give to the heated air the requisite degree of humidity; and from the top of this air chamber, pipes of tin, cased with wood, were made to convey a warm current of air, to rise through different parts of the floor of every room into which she should have occasion to enter. She was thus given the benefit of a warm temperature, that of sixty degrees, with little variation, as proposed by her physician, with the constant and rapid change of air. A summer temperature of eighteen months was thus given, and the result exceeded Mr. K.'s most sanguine hopes. The patient has perfectly recovered her health and strength, and she suffers no further inconvenience from her past illness, than inability to walk briskly up hill, or to sustain any continued bodily exertion without affecting her breathing. Particular attention was paid to prevent the temperature of the air of the bed-room of the patient, from becoming too low at an early hour of the morning, in winter; that being the time at which Mr. K. had reason to believe patients, with tender lungs, usually suffer most in cold weather. It is probable that in the case above stated, the patient was, to a great extent, benefited by judicious medical treatment, in every other respect; but, upon this subject, Mr. Knight admits he is not qualified to speak.

Some chemists have objected to the employment of metallic tubes, for conveying warm air, because it attracts oxygen; but the quantity is so very small, that it cannot possibly deteriorate the air; earthen tubes are, however, much cheaper, and better for the purpose.

SEIDLITZ POWDERS.—We have received a letter from Dr. Turner, of New York, on the regular and irregular quackery of England, in which he expresses his astonishment, that the legislature should allow such impositions to be practised on the public with impunity, as selling articles under fictitious names; and that persons styling themselves chemists, should advertise such a paltry composition as that of the "patent Seidlitz powders," as the component parts of the celebrated Seidlitz mineral water, not one ingredient of which is to be found in the native water!! The acid, is indeed, a *vegetable* product, a proof of the *chemical* knowledge of the Proprietor of the Nostrum, and of the high regard he must have for his character as a chemist. Dr. T. complains also of the high price at which it is sold. The following composition, he states, "is much more efficacious in abating thirst, and keeping the body cool, more pleasant and effectual in its operation as an aperient, and much more grateful to the palate, &c."

Take of Tartaric Acid, in fine powder;
Cream of Tartar, ditto; of each four ounces;
to be well mixed together.
Take of Carbonate of Soda, finely powdered, five ounces and a half;
White Sugar, two ounces and a half;
Essence of Lemon, a drachm and a half; to be well mixed together.

Dissolve a teaspoonful of the acid in a quarter of a pint of water, (in a large tumbler) and the same quantity of the carbonate of soda, &c. in a wineglassful of water, and then add the latter to the former, and drink the mixture during the effervescence. If it should not act sufficiently on the bowels, the quantity of each of the mixed powders may be increased. They should be kept in bottles.

DOCTOR JAMES JOHNSON.—This most acute physician, profound philosopher, able chemist, and most flowery phraseologist, is extremely angry with the Rev. Mr. Whiter, for having quoted an observation by us in an article on premature interment, that the vital powers, when suspended, may be brought into action by subterraneous heat. "That the earth," says the *Doctor*, "thrown *up out* of *the grave*, and lowered to the temperature of all surrounding bodies, should, when thrown *in on* a corpse, *defended* by a shroud, coffin and cover, have any BALMY *or restorative* effects, can be entertained *only* by them." The learned philosopher then admits that the temperature of the earth, even a yard below the surface, runs higher than that of the atmosphere, and of all the bodies which surround it, "when thrown *up out* of the *grave*." If so, how soon, after the coffin is deposited, and the thrown-up earth is returned, is the matter of heat diffused through them, so as to render the whole, coffin, shroud, and body, of the same temperature as the surrounding earth? Every person who knows any thing of the matter of heat, and of the use of a thermometer, must be aware that the corpse, even when *defended* by the shroud, and the coffin too, will soon be restored to the same temperature as that of the place in which they are deposited. One would suppose, by the scribbler's remark, that he supposes that the coffin and shroud are non-conductors of heat!!!

The word *balmy*, the erudite gentleman has introduced, as having been applied by us to a power of the earth, was not employed by us, and we give him credit for his ingenuity, in having so judiciously introduced it. That the work of such a contemptible scribbler and dreamer should pass into a second Number, is certainly not surprising, because the book of Dr. Solomon passed through forty-five editions; but that members of the profession should subscribe to a work, which is so totally destitute of any thing like science, a mere play of words, the most contemptible of all jargon, is to us, who wish to think favourably of the profession at large, a matter of astonishment.

A physician, who devoted more time to scientific pursuits than to the cultivation of practice, on seeing an old servant living in a style superior to himself, asked him, by what means he had acquired the power of supporting such an expensive establishment of servants, carriages, &c. "Sir," replied the *gentleman*, "soon after I left your service, I entered boldly into the trade of quackery, and to your prescriptions I am indebted for three of my most profitable remedies." "Can you tell me why quacks succeed better than regular physicians?" "Oh," replied the quack, "that, Sir, is very clear. In the course of an hour no less than 1500 people pass my shop; out of that number, not more than 50 are capable of judging for themselves. Now, Sir, if the 50 go to you, and the 1450 come to me, the reason of my success must be clear." Are we then to attribute the circumstance of Mr. James Johnson's having *medical* subscribers to his work to the same cause? The num-

ber, it is true, is small; but, that that number should be found in the profession, incapable of distinguishing jargon from science, and declamation from criticism, is greatly to be lamented; for the fact, that one medical man should subscribe to such a contemptible farrago of nonsense, published for the information of the profession, cannot fail to diminish the confidence of the public in the healing art.

Many of our readers have expressed their surprise, that we should notice the productions of this scribbler, for, by pointing out his nonsense, we give him a consequence which contributes to his vanity. If those readers will recollect the object of our work, viz.: to expose regular and irregular quackery and ignorance, and that we have noticed the learned works of *Dr.* Solomon and other scribblers, we hope they will not suppose that we have compromised the respectability of our Journal, by noticing the writings of *Dr.* James Johnson. It is the insult that this medical ranter offers to the *regular* profession, that we feel, by publishing such ridiculous trash for their information. Ignorance and impudence always go hand in hand, and we should certainly, with the feelings of pity, have taken leave of him and his works, had not some weak members of the profession subscribed to his "literary labours."

In consequence of the notice we have taken of these writings, he has found it necessary, in order to induce his subscribers to continue their patronage, to state that he has taken into his service, men of science to write for his Journal, under his superintendence!!! If such is the case, the men of science are evidently ashamed of the work, by not allowing their names to appear even as coadjutors of the *learned* and *experienced Dr.* James Johnson. The contents of the work, prove the assertion to be false, for if such men were employed, we should find something like a ray of science in it. We have no feelings of enmity towards *Dr.* Johnson. We know him not as a practitioner, and as such he is unknown. We are told that he attributes our exposure of his absurdities to jealousy!! Mr. Coates, the learned amateur, attributed the hissing and other insults he received, when representing the dying Romeo, to the opposition of the performers, whose interest, he conceived, was to drive him from the stage.

Our "opposition to the works of *Dr.* James Johnson," if opposition it is to be termed, arises from no interested view, and as we are desirous of discovering any thing like merit or science, in his writings, we will agree to present a purse of fifty guineas to any of his subscribers, or, indeed, any person who may point out to the satisfaction of an impartial judge, one remark from his pen of any practical utility, or an original scientific suggestion; we will also agree to present any person with the same sum, who will fix on a page of his books on practical medicine, in which we may fail to point out an absurdity, to the satisfaction of a competent judge; or if any of his readers are disposed to defend the said Doctor James Johnson, we will back Dr. Brodum against him for one hundred guineas, to write a dissertation on any medical subject, on condition that neither be acquainted with it, till they are confined in separate rooms, to which no person shall be allowed access until the dissertation be finished. The last offer we consider complimentary to *Dr.* Johnson, because the first medical cha-

racters in London often dine at Dr. Brodum's table; the Doctor has also attended Westminster Hospital, and the Lectures of Carlisle and Bradley, and in point of *scientific* attainments, he is certainly not inferior to Dr. James Johnson. With these proposals (which we shall advertise in the leading papers of London), we take leave of *Doctor* James Johnson and his contemptible writings.

PRESERVATION OF MEAT.—Dr. Stanley, a scientific physician of Whitehaven, has made several experiments with the pyrolignous acid, in order to ascertain its property in preserving meat. Dr. Brewster of Edinburgh has published the following extract from the letter Dr. Stanley addressed to him on the result of his experiments:—"Having previously made several experiments with the pyrolignous acid, the results of which were favourable, on the 6th of October 1819, I prepared two pieces of fresh meat (beef) with the purified acid, applying it lightly over their surfaces by means of a small brush. After hanging up in my kitchen till the 12th of November following, I gave one of the specimens to the captain of a vessel bound for the West Indies, with directions to observe and note any change that might take place during his voyage, and to bring it back to me on the return of his ship to port. In the month of October 1820, he restored me the specimen. He had examined it several times on the voyage out, and during his stay of some months at the island of Tobago, as did several gentlemen resident there, but no perceptible change could be detected. On comparing it with the specimen kept at home, I could observe no sensible difference in their appearance. On the 21st December following, I caused both to be thoroughly boiled, and, when served up, they were declared, by several gentlemen who tasted them with me, to be perfectly fresh and sweet, and, with the addition of salt and vegetables, a palatable and wholesome dish. The above experiment, I think, fully proves the antiseptic powers of the pyrolignous acid, my specimens having been preserved for the space of fourteen months, and one of them subjected to a long sea voyage, and the action of a West India climate, with success. I have, for the purpose of verifying the foregoing experiment, again prepared two specimens, the one mutton and the other beef, and sent them out to the same island, with similar directions, and I make no doubt of the result being equally satisfactory."

ICE.—Mr. Hemptinne, of Brussels, has shewn, that ice, for summer use, should be taken from the river on a very cold day, and be exposed on the following night to the open air, till its temperature is in equilibrio with the cold of the atmosphere. It should then be placed in the ice-house about six o'clock in the morning, when the air becomes warmer. In order to prove the advantage of this method, he supposes that two ice-houses have been filled with ice, one with ice at 32°, and the other with ice at 14°. When a sixth part of the ice at 32° is melted, the ice at 14° will be untouched, but its temperature will have risen to 32°. One sixth part of the whole, therefore, has been saved by laying it up at a low temperature.

BRENTFORD DISPENSARY.—SIRS,—The article which appeared in your 65th number, on Dispensaries, was lately noticed at a meeting of the subscribers to this Dispensary, some of whom insinuated that the writer was actuated by a spirit of opposition. It was said,

that the medical officers of the charity, having been paid for attending the poor, they are entitled to remuneration for *their attendance* at the Dispensary; but, Sirs, they are not, I presume, attending the institution on behalf and by appointment of the parish, and the money they receive is from voluntary contributions, and not from the parish rates. The great cause of very general complaint, which you have not noticed, and which I conceive to be a very serious one, is, that the institution has been attended chiefly by the apprentices of the medical officers, and if any are entitled to remuneration by *charity* money, it is those *juvenile* PRACTITIONERS!! Of the *good they have* done, I need not speak. Patients afflicted with complex diseases, I apprehend, often apply to a dispensary; and I cannot help thinking it cruel to leave the treatment of such to inexperienced youths. I beg to ask those who supported the pecuniary remuneration of the medical attendants, if the object of the charity is not frustrated by trusting the care of the patients to young men? or if the *poor* are deemed proper subjects for experiments, for God's sake let them be made by men of science and experience, in order that they may be such that may benefit the human race.—I am, Sirs,

A SUBSCRIBER TO THE BRENTFORD DISPENSARY.

Brentford, May 26, 1821.

The person who asserted that the Editors were actuated by an unworthy motive in their notice of the Brentford Dispensary, must be unacquainted with their ruling passion. They have no wish to interfere with any of the private patients of the medical gentlemen of Brentford, who can afford to remunerate them. They attend at Brentford four hours every Tuesday, to benefit their own health, and to do good to the *indigent* who may stand in need of medical aid. If lucre were their object, they would certainly not attend at Brentford, nor leave London one hour, where their patients are sufficiently numerous and wealthy.

HUDSON'S BOTANICAL TOOTH POWDER.—"This powder," the proprietor states, "is *chemically* prepared from aromatic herbs, possessing antiputrescent and antiscorbutic properties, and is equally mild, pleasant, and efficacious." He represents it to be "*perfectly* innocent," that it is capable of preserving the teeth from decay, and of rendering them white. "By removing the tartar, and preventing its accumulation," he observes, "it consequently renders a dentist unnecessary." For using it, he directs the teeth to be *well rubbed upwards* and *downwards* with a *hard* brush covered with the powder. "If the *teeth* are *tender*," says he, "take water lukewarm, and if mixed with milk, it is milder, and proceed as before-mentioned, rinsing the mouth after using." On examining this powder, *chemically* prepared from aromatic herbs, we find it to be composed of Peruvian bark, Armenian bole, cassia, orris powder, and calcareous earth, so much for its being a *chemical* preparation from *aromatic herbs!!*

The contents of a two shilling and ninepenny box, cost the proprietor about threepence!!

We agree perfectly with the learned Proprietor, that if this powder were universally adopted, and used as he directs, with a hard brush, there would be no occasion for dentists, unless, indeed, to extract stumps, and make artificial teeth. Firm, indeed, must be the enamel of a tooth that would resist the rubbing he recommends, with a *hard* brush, and *such a composition*, twelve months.

In justice to Mr. Hudson, a respectable chemist of the Haymarket, we conceive it to be our duty to state, that he is not the proprietor of this pretended *chemical* preparation from herbs, as generally supposed.

For the purpose of cleaning the teeth, a tooth powder is necessary. It should be well levigated, and should possess no active chemical property. The levigated charcoal of the areca nut, (commonly called betel nut) is, as stated by Dr. Lynd, unquestionably the best. It not only renders the enamel white, but preserves its health, and even suspends the progress of caries after it has taken place. The superficial caries of the enamel, which occurs in scrofulous or ricketty subjects, we have known to disappear, and holes to be filled up with new enamel during its use. When the gums are spongy or relaxed, or the teeth loose, the tincture of rhatany root should also be employed by means of a very fine sponge attached to the end of a handle, in the shape of that of a tooth brush, as directed in a former Number.

CANADIAN OINTMENT.—About three months ago, Dr. Hart of Red Lion Square, with his attorney, (a very respectable Gentleman, no doubt), *honored* us with a visit. After a few observations on the article in our 64th Number, on an advertised Nostrum for Piles, under the name of "the Canadian Ointment," the *learned* DOCTOR observed that he was the proprietor, that the ointment contains other articles besides those we have noticed, that it was highly approved of by the Faculty of Paris, that the sale of it had fallen off since our notice of it, and that he had brought his attorney, for the purpose of proceeding against us for the damages he had in consequence sustained. We observed, that we were exceedingly glad to find that our report of the remedy had proved so advantageous to the public. That it might be a good application for indolent Piles, but that in cases of irritative or inflammatory Piles, it was a very improper remedy, and capable of producing very serious mischief. That in cases of organic disease of the rectum or colon, on which Piles are a common attendant, the application of such a stimulus might produce a most distressing degree of irritation, if not inflammation. The attorney declared his determination to proceed immediately for damages, but although we urged him to do it, we have not had the pleasure of hearing that he has commenced legal proceedings. We have since examined this "valuable remedy for Piles," without being able to detect any other articles than those we have noticed, and certain we are that it does not possess any, capable of preventing its doing mischief, in cases of inflammatory or irritative Piles.—The Doctor being a foreigner, we have applied to the foreign department, for information respecting him, and as he has thought proper to re-advertise his nostrum, we shall ascertain, by application to another quarter, how far this traffic can be carried on with impunity; so that instead of defenders, we shall become prosecutors; and we do not despair of convincing him, that we are as well acquainted with the law of libels as his *learned* attorney; and that *truth*, although told in terms "that will not admit of much legal quibbling or sophistry," will not be deemed, by a British Jury, a libel, when the object of that *truth* was to guard the public against a disgraceful traffic, that of tampering with the health and lives of invalids, for the sake of lucre!

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 69. To SEPTEMBER 1, 1821. VOL. VI.

THE PHYSICIAN'S GUIDE.

A FEW months ago we noticed an Essay on the Practice of Medicine, &c. from the pen of Dr. Dods, an eminent Physician of Worcester.—We have now the pleasure of introducing to our readers a more voluminous work by this gentleman, entitled, "The Physician's Guide; or, Popular Dissertation on Fevers and Inflammation, with Observations on the Use and Abuse of Bleeding, and Practical Remarks on the Systems of Surgeon Abernethy, Dr. Hamilton, and others," the professed object of which is to exhibit in one view the most important and necessary parts of knowledge for the physician who is desirous to do justice to his patients and credit to himself.

A few years ago, Dr. Hooper, although only a Licentiate of the College of Physicians, *i. e.* a practitioner licensed by the College of Physicians to exercise his knowledge and skill in simple cases of disease, presumed to publish a small work, under the title of "*The Physician's Vade-Mecum;*" but, notwithstanding the Editors of the Medical Journals recommended it to the attention of their readers, as a work of great merit, we believe it never reached a second edition; and at this time we understand it exhibits a case of *suspended* animation, which all the sophistical puffing of the Physical and Medical Journal, or of the Medical Repository, even with the powerful aid of the *theatrical or jargonic medicine* of *Doctor* James Johnson, will not be able to resuscitate.

No modern work has tended more to diminish the confidence of the public in regular medicine than the Physician's Vade-Mecum: so contemptible are its directions for the treatment of diseases, and the prescriptions of the learned author, that even the Apothecaries, who were induced to purchase it, on the recommendation of the Medical Journals of London, to which they subscribed, threw it aside with contempt; and at this time, we believe, the Physician's Vade-Mecum, like the back Numbers of the Medico-Chirurgical Review, instead of diffusing useful information among the members of the profession, is employed as a vehicle for conveying butter and bacon among the inhabitants of Saint Giles's.

The object of Dr. Dods, in publishing A Guide for Physicians, is to enable this class of practitioners to form a just opinion of the various theories which have of late years been published in this country, to distinguish the flights of fancy of literary quacks and book makers, from sound theories, founded on facts, as well as sophistical declamation and plausible jargon from sound reasoning and scientific criticism*.

* In our examinations of the nostrums and practices of quacks, regu-

Dr. Dods is one of the very few physicians who during his practice has studiously collected facts, and dared to draw inferences from them. The late Doctor Darwin, one of the wildest theorists this or any other country has produced, attempted to justify theory, because to theorise was merely to think and to infer, but to theorise on hypotheses and on facts are widely different. Dr. Dods, during a long course of experience, has stored his mind with facts, and instead of being satisfied with a knowledge of the ancients, or with the classical learning which is deemed by our universities sufficient to qualify a person to exercise the healing art, he has employed that knowledge in drawing practical inferences, and without subjecting his fellow-creatures or brutes to cruel or hazardous experiments, for the sake of experience, to establish a preconceived theory, he has drawn his conclusions from the results of judicious and scientific treatment, and from facts.

---

lar and irregular, we have discovered nothing so impudent or so insulting to the Medical Profession of this country, as the institution of a Medico-Chirurgical Review, by a man whose principal field for observation and experience was the navy!!! In this field, it is well known, very few diseases occur, and those few require so simple a treatment, that even the death of the Surgeon-Apothecary is not considered a loss by the officers. Where a field is small, the medical man of weak intellects, uniformly takes a very narrow view of medicine, and from the effects of Epsom salts, lemon juice, and calomel, in his very confined practice, he really fancies that all he requires further to enable him to set up as a physician, on quitting the navy, is an acquaintance with technicalities; and with this knowledge he becomes so inflated as to fancy himself qualified to be a teacher, and even to decide on the merits of the works of the most experienced practitioners!!! Many surgeons of the *Royal Navy*, however, take a different view of the science of medicine, in consequence of having seen much practice before they entered the service, and of having prosecuted their studies as men of science. In medicine, in particular, " a little learning is a dangerous thing," and of the necessity of drinking deep, the miserably contemptible Quarterly Review of *Doctor* James Johnson, affords the strongest evidence that can be adduced. A mere arrangement of fine sounding words, without any practical information, or any thing like science!!! That such a production should have a regular subscriber, beyond the circle of his acquaintance, is a disgrace to the profession. So long as such works are countenanced by the profession, the members cannot be surprised that quackery should flourish, for the best means the public have of forming a proper estimate of the state of medicine, and how far regular practitioners are entitled to implicit confidence in cases of disease, are the works published professedly for professional reference.

Many country practitioners take in a periodical work for no other purpose than to induce their neighbours to suppose that they do attend to the progress of medicine, and that they have the means of knowing what is going on in the medical world. We, some time since, saw the back Numbers of the Medico-Chirurgical Review in the surgery of a country practitioner, not one sheet of which had been cut open!!!

Dr. Dods has very ably combated the opinions broached by Dr. W. Philip, in the Worcester Journal, that the practice of physic should be divided into different departments, and that each practitioner should strictly observe his own; viz. that the physician alone should attend at the bedside of invalids, and prescribe for their ailments; that the apothecary should keep behind his counter, to compound the prescriptions of physicians; that the surgeon should attend only to manual operations and the dressing of ulcers, and that the druggist should only prepare medicines for the use of the apothecary!!

Dr. Dods, like a man of science, boldly comes forward to oppose such an absurd doctrine; a doctrine which he very properly terms a libel on common sense. He contends that no man can be qualified to exercise the important office of physician with justice to his patients, who is not acquainted with every branch of the profession. A physician, to be entitled to the confidence of his patient, should be practically acquainted with MEDICINE, and we beg to ask what is *medicine?* Does it not comprehend pathology, pharmocology, chemistry, anatomy, and surgery? If so, is a man entitled to the denomination of a *physician* who is not acquainted with all the departments of medicine? A physician, as the late eminent and conscientious Mr. John Bell observed, should be able to bring the rays of each department of medicine to bear on the great question of practice; but, alas! alas! many of the ultra-physicians, or regular physicians, as they *modestly* style themselves, can bring only a knowledge of ancient medicine, dressed in the language of superstitious Rome, to the aid of their patients!! They can enter the bed-chamber of the sick gracefully, with a countenance expressive of sympathy, and a profound knowledge of the means most likely to restore the patient to health, or mitigate his sufferings. Arrived at the bedside, he takes his position, with a watch in his hand, and a countenance expressive of condolence and an ability of prescribing for his relief; (as Mr. Bell observes) he can look most sapiently when he is most ignorant, to secure the implicit confidence of his patient!! This scene being finished, perfectly to the satisfaction of the patient and the good old women present, he proceeds with the grace and dignity peculiar to graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, to another room, to write a prescription; and here we may indeed exclaim, what a falling off!!—a solution of Epsom salt, in an infusion of roses, or some such simple composition, to quiet the patient, and secure another visit!! The fee is taken most graciously, the features of the face now assume their natural arrangement, and the physician marches to his carriage with rapid strides, to perform a similar part at the house of another *friend!!*

This is the man whose trade consists in visits, and whose study is to cultivate acquaintances, merely to pick their pockets in the trying hours of affliction. These are the men who exclaim violently against all attempts to diffuse a knowledge of medicine among mankind, or rather to enable the public to discover the man of science from the impostor. Domestic medicine, they with much truth represent to be the most injurious, for injurious it certainly is to the trade of this most contemptible tribe of practitioners.

Dr. Dods opposes this most ridiculous, most irrational system, a system of quackery more disgraceful than that of advertising a nostrum for the cure of every malady. He attacked the opinions of Dr. Philip with the weapons of common sense, in a manner which soon convinced the Doctor that he had to contend with a man of science. Dr. Philip very prudently, or politically, withdrew from the controversy, and quitted the city of Worcester, apparently in consequence of having failed to establish himself as an *ultra-physician.*—Speaking of Dr. Philip's attempt to establish himself, as the leading or ultra-physician of Worcester, and his coalition with Dr. Hastings to monopolize the practice of medicine in the county of Worcester, Dr. Dods observes—"But Dr. Wilson Philip has lately published a pamphlet with the view of recommending his system of a plurality of medical men, or *half*-practitioners, to be continued, and for this purpose he introduces into it the names of Drs. Jonas Malden and Charles Hastings. He might also have mentioned Dr. Lewis Evans, &c., as being of the same class. I have, however, already stated that every medical man ought to be *practically* acquainted with diseases, and the separate departments of the profession, before he exercises the office of a physician, and to confirm this, it is of itself only necessary to take a fair and candid view of the writings of these learned gentlemen, as they prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that the greater part of their works are made up of erroneous theories, or delusive bubbles, equally empty as fragile, not even rendered captivating by the usual charm of novelty; and that instead of presuming to direct others in the treatment of diseases, they themselves actually require to be directed!! The reader (says Dr. Dods) will observe that these remarks are not mere assertions. They are every where supported by quotations and references, and numerous others might be given. The title to this work, 'The Physician's Guide,' must now appear to every one perfectly appropriate. Until they can show that they *really* possess some *superior* knowledge of the nature and cure of what are called *medical* diseases, my assertion, which is founded on *their own* writings, will be considered, by every reasonable and unbiassed person, to remain unconfuted; and that their system is artificial, and for the many reasons before stated, as likewise numerous others which may be mentioned, must be a powerful means of retarding the progress and diffusion of medical knowledge, and consequently highly injurious to the public, as well as derogatory to the dignity and respectability of the profession. Moreover, learned Doctors, unless you prove (what I verily believe you cannot) that your knowledge of medical diseases is more extensive and profound than that of other persons who are acquainted with all the branches of the profession, some of those other persons may not only be apt to hold your pretended superior knowledge in contempt, but to assert and prove, that it is absolutely of a very inferior kind. I would therefore strenuously advise you, good and sapient Doctors, to shew your acumen, and refute, in print, on scientific and practical principles, every word and allusion I have dared to publish. The public, at least all those who no longer wish to remain dupes to your system, which is a libel on common sense, expect this from you."

Dr. Dods very ably exposes the folly of attributing a variety of local diseases to a morbid condition of the liver, and of attempting to cure diseases opposite in their nature, and arising from opposite causes, by the same mode of treatment.

"The knowledge of the operations of the whole animal," says the illustrious J. Hunter, "or of its parts, when arising from a disturbed or deranged state, or a diseased disposition, are to be considered as the first steps towards a rational cure. But this alone is insufficient; the means of bringing the body to that state which accords best with the accident or disease, are also necessary, which will include the knowledge of certain causes and effects, acquired by experience, including the application of many substances called medicines, which have the power of counteracting the action of disease." "Hence," says Dr. Dods, "a mere knowledge of remedies is complete empiricism, and in the extreme contemptible. Some minds indeed suffer less pressure and enjoy a purer light than others. But it is impossible that the mind of a conscientious practitioner should confine itself to a mere knowledge of remedies; wherever it acts, it must reason; the light and load of former ages are upon every thinking mind; it is no more possible to escape than from the influence of the circumambient air; and, whether in administering the pill or draught, it must always form its ideas not only of the operation of the medicine, but of the especial nature of the morbid state, for the cure of which it is administered. I shall now only further remark, that a multiplication of facts, or extensive experience, without deep reflection to arrange them, will merely perplex and confound the observer. As all ideas are derived from sense, all argument must consist of a statement of facts or perceptions. That which strikes the eye, more immediately engages the attention, and impresses on the memory serious truths. Hence the true way of making ideas durable, or rather, easily excitable, is to make them clear and distinct at first. On this account, it has been truly observed that *the art of memory is the art of attention.* But the association of certain diseases with their common remedies is frequently too firmly fixed in the mind of the physician to yield to the influence of reason; and is, sometimes, cherished because it favours indolence. This association, however, does not exist in nature. With whatever accuracy the disorder may at first have been discriminated, and its nosological name and situation ascertained, the various circumstances of constitution, temperament, and previous habits, so necessarily modify its phenomena, that it would often be highly injurious to treat the same disorder, in two individuals, exactly in the same manner."

So desirous is Dr. Dods to establish medicine on a sound basis, for the benefit of suffering humanity, and for the honour of the profession, that after completely refuting the absurd theories and opinions of Dr. Philip and Dr. Hastings, he even condescends to notice the silly works of *Doctor* James Johnson.

After lamenting the difference of opinion, which exists among members of the profession, and the obstinacy manifested by all in defence of doctrines diametrically opposite, Dr. Dods observes, "I would, however, much rather endeavour to produce co-operation among medical men; to conciliate for them reverence and esteem, by producing instances of the various good works in which they are instrumental; to

consolidate their exertions, and direct them to the most judicious plans of treating diseases; and to prove what they are capable of effecting by *prudent* zeal, and *cordial unanimity*, than to produce irritation and discontent;—and if, by the instrumentality of my pages, practical good can be promoted; if what is evil can be counteracted or repressed; if any sophistry, which injures the cause of unity and truth, shall be detected, any errors of judgment, *popular* as well as *professional*, be prevented or removed, and converted into an engine of unquestionable general utility, —the Physician's Guide will not appear in vain. But many of the modes of cure, recommended in the succeeding pages, materially differ from those taught by certain medical professors and lecturers; and on many occasions I have been necessitated to dissent pointedly from the doctrine of some noted authors. Whatever regard or admiration I may entertain towards men celebrated for their rank and scientific acquirements, I am morally bound to maintain what my own experience has satisfactorily proved to me to be efficacious, how much soever it may oppose prevailing opinions.

"The mazy labyrinth of a mass of heterogeneous notions, in Great Britain, as likewise in foreign parts, respecting the nature or essence of every disease, and the operation of every remedy, are such, that I soon found the useful was not to be *discriminated* from that which is frivolous or erroneous, without much toil and experience. In opening the various treatises with which the press is laden, how discrepant do we still find the sentiments of our brethren. Each different writer has framed an hypothesis of his own, and has laboured hard to support it; and I have employed a great deal of laborious research in order to collect something like truth from their contradictory accounts. It has been my chief aim to ascertain facts more than maintain opinions; to study the economy of nature, rather than to shackle her with conjectural or inconsistent theories. Indeed, I have throughout been desirous to communicate useful information for the benefit of the community, confining my attention chiefly to points of real *practical* importance, by avoiding as much as possible all hypothetical speculations and controversial discussion. It is indeed much to be lamented, that we are so little benefited by the errors and failures of our predecessors; and that our knowledge must be so dearly purchased in the school of experience, to be profoundly directed. This would be of comparatively trivial moment, did the consequences devolve upon ourselves only; but it assumes a widely different aspect and interest, when the lives that are intrusted to us become the price at which wisdom is to be purchased."

The pages of the Physician's Guide prove, that the object of the author was not to make a book merely to advertise his name, or to make money, for every page contains some information of practical utility. The work shews that he has been alive to every suggestion and theory that has been published for the last thirty years, and the observations which are dispersed through it, prove that he is competent to the task of estimating their value. Men of science and practical information will congratulate him for having executed an arduous task, in a manner so highly creditable to him, both as a physician and a philanthropist, while the sticklers for ancient medicine, and for the fee trade, will oppose his efforts to establish a rational system of medicine, although for the

benefit of mankind!! A conspiracy has, indeed, already been formed to prevent the circulation of the work, and for this purpose, application has been made to some Journals, to load it and the author with abuse. The work is to be condemned as rodomontade. Even all the power of *Hastings* is to be called into action, to defeat the doctor's plan, and the author is to receive a most violent *Philippic* for his manly exposure of regular quackery. Such opposition we consider highly creditable to Dr. Dods, and we sincerely hope his work will induce his opponents to attempt a refutation of his opinions. Having been acquainted with the names of the party, by a near relative of one, we shall certainly attend to their comments on the work, and if we discover "aught put down in malice," we shall consider it our duty to expose them.

TIC DOULOUREUX.—Sirs,—Through the medium of your extensively circulated Gazette of Health, I will thank you to communicate to your readers the following case of Tic Douloureux, illustrating the beneficial effects of the Carbonate of Iron in that obstinate and tormenting disease.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Southwell, Aug. 9, 1821. BENJ. HUTCHINSON.

Mr. Todd, a very respectable farmer and grazier, residing at Farnsfield, in the County of Nottingham, in the twenty-sixth year of his age, of sober habits, and of a delicate, lax fibre, began to complain of uneasy sensations in the left side of his face, about a year and a half back, and which he at first ascribed to carious teeth. The pain extended to the left ala nasi, the upper lip, the superior bicuspid teeth, the temple, the upper and lower lip. The infra-orbitar nerve, with its manifold ramifications, appeared to be the principal seat of the disease, which consisted of paroxysms, in the periods of recurrence, in degree and duration, extremely irregular. They would at times excite only moderate complainings, but more generally the most violent screaming and contortions. The pain would sometimes begin below the eye, and descend to the upper and lower lip. The continuance of these fits of pain was very uncertain, frequently remaining five minutes, and sometimes only a few seconds. A perfect freedom from pain, and extreme good health were enjoyed in the happy intervals of the disease. The scalding, burning, tearing, and boring sensations allowed my patient the power of describing the kind of torture with which he was afflicted. There did not appear to be any period of the day in which these paroxysms were more violent, or in their recurrence more frequent. His nights were bad, and the intervals of ease were generally spent in unrefreshing slumbers, alarmed by dreams originating in suggestions of approaching attacks. The paroxysms appeared to come on spontaneously, no external cause exciting them, nor the actions of mastication, or of speaking, producing this effect. The weaker attacks would frequently admit of alleviation from the compression of the infra-orbitar branches, about an inch and a half below the eye. The parts affected always retained their natural appearance, notwithstanding the patient himself always complained of a sense of tumefaction. This train of symptoms clearly pointed out the character of the disease, and the outlines of the case were so strongly marked, that the suggestion of any other malady than the one now treated

of was altogether precluded. The plan of cure appeared to my mind equally obvious. Under the mistaken idea that my patient's disease originated in his teeth, he suffered the extraction of three molares, with the mortification of not receiving the most distant relief. On the contrary, an increase of all his tortures immediately succeeded: the violence committed in the neighbourhood of the distracted nerves, seemed to aggravate their irritability in a tenfold degree, and his miseries appeared to admit of no alleviation. His complaint was now treated as a rheumatic affection, and various external and internal means were tried with the same unavailing effect. At the expiration of a year's suffering, Mr. Todd applied to me, and I immediately commenced that course which experience had so frequently taught me to be the most successful. In the middle of last May he began to take one drachm of the carbonate of iron, three times a day, and I directed him to make use of an ointment to the affected cheek every night, consisting of the tartrate of antimony, powdered opium, camphor and mercurial ointment, one drachm of which was used each evening, until a plentiful crop of pustules appeared; its use was then suspended a few days, and resumed when the eruptions were healed. This plan was duly persevered in for three weeks, when my patient had experienced some very trifling degree of relief. The medicine now produced uneasy sensations in the bowels, which were removed, and in future prevented by mixing the powder with the confect. aromatic, instead of honey, and if diarrhœa at any time accompanied its exhibition, five drops of the tinct. opii, added to each dose, restrained any inordinate action of this nature. During the ensuing six weeks, my patient pretty regularly persevered in the same plan, modifying and altering the treatment according to existing symptoms, occasionally omitting the medicines a day or two from unforeseen circumstances. Mr. Todd gradually lost his torments, and is now perfectly well.

B. H.

SIRS,—If, for the sake of persons afflicted with that direful disease, the tic douloureux, you will so far favour me as to insert the following, it may be the means of encouraging those so afflicted to try the remedy, which I have taken, with complete success.

In justice to Dr. Hutchinson, the following statement seems to claim a place in your useful Journal.

About the year 1798, being troubled with the tooth-ache, I went to Darkin and Son, Dentists, Whitechapel, to have a tooth extracted: but, unfortunately for me, the dentist broke the tooth, part remaining in the jaw, from which I suffered severe pain for the space of two years. From the information I have collected, and from my painful sufferings, I have no doubt, that it brought on the tic douloureux. The pain returned at intervals of some months, so extremely violent, that it became almost unbearable.

For some years afterwards I was entirely free from pain, until the latter part of the year 1817, when the prevailing distresses of British sailors being very apparent, roused my attention and exertion in their behalf. Being actively employed in business from morning until night, the midnight hour was employed in planning for their permanent good; and to this incessant application and anxiety for them, I ascribe the return of that horrible complaint, the tic douloureux. My first publica-

tion appeared in January, 1818, and the first paroxysm I felt in March following, continuing very irritable from that period until January, 1821, without much intermission; during which time I took a great quantity of different kinds of medicine, till at last I gave up all hopes of being cured, when a kind friend brought me Mr. Hutchinson's book, on the tic douloureux:—having made proper inquiry respecting Mr. Hutchinson, and finding him both respectable and skilful, I resolved to try the carbonate of iron as recommended by him.

Being in great agony, I began on

26 January, with 1 drachm twice a day.
10 February, 1 and a half do.
24 ——— 2 drachms, do.
12 April to 15, 2 drachms and 1 scruple, do.
16 —— to 27, 1 and 2 doses alternately.
28 —— to 30, 1 dose only each day.
1 May to 14, 1 and 2 do. alternately.
15 —— to 17, 1.
18 —— 2.
19 —— 1.
20 —— 2.
21 —— to 29, 1.
30 —— none.
31 —— 1.
1 June to 10, 1 every other day.
11 —— 1.
12 —— & 13, none.
14 —— 1.
15 —— & 16, none.
17 —— 1.
18 —— & 19, none.
20 —— 1.
21 —— & 22, none.
23 —— 1.
24 —— to 26, none.

The above doses were 2 drachms and 1 scruple each.

27 June, 1 dose, 1 drachm and 1 scruple.
28 June to July 1, none.
—— 2, 1.
3 July to 6, none.
7 —— 1.
8 —— none.
9 —— & 10, 1.
11 —— to 16, none.
17 —— 2.
18 —— to 22, none.
23 —— 1.

This the last.

The ferri carbonas I mixed with honey as an electuary, and I occasionally took opening pills, accompanied sometimes with Epsom salts, and peppermint water. The recipe of the pills, and any information I can render further is much at the service of any one afflicted with the tic douloureux.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JEFFERY DENNIS.

Author of a Systematic Plan for bettering the Condition of Owners, Commanders, Officers, and Seamen, in the Merchant Service.

August 16, 1821, 4, Commercial Road, St. George's, East.

N. B. I have been able to wash my face and shave myself without fear, for about six weeks back; and consider myself now perfectly recovered.

In the Journal of Pharmacy of Paris, two cases of tic douloureux are published, which were cured by the exhibition of large doses of the Peruvian bark, with opium and ether; and two cases by pills composed of extract of henbane, valerian, and flowers of zinc. Mr. Kerrison, a scientific surgeon-apothecary, of London, continues to prescribe the Peruvian bark powder with the extract, with success in this disease; and a correspondent informs us, that Lord Carlisle, who has suffered

exceedingly from this disease, for many years, has been lately very materially relieved or cured by the Peruvian bark, according to the directions of Mr. Kerrison.

A few weeks ago we met with a very distressing case of this disease, in a lady, with an infant at the breast, who had taken the Peruvian bark in large doses, arsenic, and several vegetable poisons, without any advantage, who received immediate relief from the carbonate of iron, and after taking it for three weeks, agreeably to Surgeon Hutchinson's plan, was entirely free from pain. After taking it a fortnight, the infant, which she regularly suckled, became feverish, and the motions very black, evidently the effects of the iron.

HEAD-ACHE.—Mr. James Farmer, a respectable surgeon of London, has lately published a very interesting little tract, on the causes and treatment of the different species of head-ache, with the view of affording information to those who are subject to the disease. The facts which he advances are valuable, because they are the results of actual observations and extensive experience. In order that his account of the maladies should be original, he consulted no author on the subject, but simply records his own observations and the result of his own experience. He is satisfied that four species of head-ache are very prevalent in this country, viz. the bilious or sick, the nervous, the rheumatic, and the plethoric.

Bilious or sick head-ache, commences with a sense of lassitude, cold chills, and loss of appetite. "A dull pain is experienced in the forehead, shooting into one or both eyes; the right, however, seems most commonly affected. In many cases the pain will commence in the temples, and extend over the whole head, producing a sense of great weight, as if it could not be raised from the pillow, when the patient is in bed; the pulse is usually accelerated, being ninety or a hundred in a minute, and sometimes even higher. In severe cases nausea and vomiting soon supervene, but there are others where the system seems not much disturbed."

The sickness, he thinks, is produced by bile regurgitating into the stomach, which is probably produced by compression of the duodenum during vomiting. The cause Mr. Farmer has traced to irregular habits and sedentary life, constipation and torpidity of the bowels, and violent exercise. For this species he recommends a pill composed of bitter apple and calomel. "In most cases," says he, "the nausea is so urgent as to preclude a medicine of that class; in that case a weak infusion of camomile flowers will clear the stomach of the redundant bile. The effervescing saline draught will then generally succeed in allaying the nausea, after which an active purge may be exhibited.

"If the action be kept up on the bowels for some time, the urgent symptoms will soon yield. I have often," continues Mr. F., "found a perspiration supervening, frequently to put an end to the attack; nevertheless, the head-ache will sometimes continue for several days, in defiance of the remedies employed. Active purging, however, will almost invariably procure for the patient a state of convalescency; but it very frequently happens that the stomach is left in a state of great debility, which is partly owing to the activity of the medicines employed in the treatment. Should this be the case, it becomes evident that it is of

primary importance to attend to it; for if the digestive organs be left to regain their lost tone, without having recourse to strengthening medicines, the disease may be expected to recur in a short time; bilious diseases being so closely allied to disorders of the stomach." Upon these grounds, Mr. F. recommends a course of such medicines as will gently stimulate the liver, and increase the tone of the stomach: with this view he prescribes the blue pill every other night, with a powder composed of rhubarb, columbo, and the sulphate of potass, to be taken two or three times a day. If this be not sufficiently purgative, he recommends the Epsom salt, with infusion of gentian, to be employed in place of the powders. By a perseverance in this plan, Mr. F. has witnessed the most satisfactory results: "it will in many instances," says he, "obviate the development of bilious head-aches, and restore the patient to a state of vigorous health."

He strongly urges the adoption of a light diet, and to avoid malt liquors; of broths, soups, and coffee, he disapproves; moderate exercise he has found beneficial.

Nervous head-ache.—The symptoms of this distressing affection "are an acute pain in the forehead and temples, and a sense of fulness over the whole head. A sense of coldness is sometimes experienced in the top of the head, and extending down the spine, resembling the sensation of the trickling of cold water, accompanied with a numbness. There is likewise a considerable giddiness felt on the *crown* of the head, but it is very different from the giddiness which is experienced by persons of a full habit. It may be distinguished from the head-ache which is caused by a redundancy of blood in the vessels of the brain, by its not being increased on stooping; and the patient being enabled to shake the head without much inconvenience. The pulse is small, and in general quick, producing a sense of vibration to the finger; in many instances it will not exceed fifty per minute, and I have known cases where it could not be felt at the wrist. The patient generally complains of being cold, and the whole system is in that disorder, commonly termed nervous."

Females are most subject to this species of head-ache. On the treatment of this species, Mr. Farmer observes, "the nervous head-ache requires a treatment corresponding with that of the affections from whence it takes its rise. When the head-ache is induced by indigestion, the indication will be, to remove it by appropriate remedies. The same may be said of head-ache depending on hysteria, and also on epilepsy.

"This head-ache being frequently induced by debility, which the nervous system has sustained by some adventitious disease, or other circumstances, the object will then be to restore that energy to it which is necessary to induce healthy action. With this view, I have found tonic medicines, united with those of a stimulating kind, to answer best; such as the sulphuric æther combined with decoction of bark, and the addition of the aromatic confection. These medicines should be continued until a salutary effect is produced. At the same time the patient should use a light invigorating diet, together with stimulating drinks, such as bottled ale or porter. Madeira wine is preferable to either; but of course such articles should be taken in moderation.

"The abstraction of the least quantity of blood (by any means whatever) from the system in this case, is highly improper. This will also apply to the practice of exhibiting strong purgatives, and indeed any thing which has the effect of weakening the system. The throbbing of the temples, which is experienced by many, induces them to think that it is caused by a determination of blood to the head; and I have found it difficult to persuade them that bleeding would only aggravate the head-ache: others have applied blisters to the temples, and behind the ears, with the same view; but they proved unavailing. People in general have recourse to smelling-bottles, to assuage the urgency of all head-aches; they are only applicable to the nervous, and even in this, the long use of such things tends to lessen their effects."

Mr. F. condemns the use of *green* tea, but approves of the *black*, which he considers a tonic. Of cold bathing he disapproves. From early rising, and exercise before breakfast, his patients have always derived benefit.

Rheumatic Head-Ache.—This species, which is very prevalent, is less distressing than the foregoing. It often comes on suddenly without any particular derangement of the stomach.—When acute, it is sometimes attended with slight fever.

"In ordinary cases," observes Mr. Farmer, "the pain will be suddenly felt on one or both sides of the head, in the situation where the temporal muscle is extended; from thence it will gradually spread itself over the other parts of the head, producing a sense of tightness, but it very rarely affects the eyes. At other times the ears will become painful; but the sense of hearing is seldom or ever affected. In many instances, the pain of the head will intermit, and go off as abruptly as it commenced, without leaving any peculiar sensation.

"This head-ache seems to have little or no influence on the general functions, nor does the appetite undergo any alteration; and persons follow their pursuits without evincing the presence of the disease. It is sometimes accompanied with nervous disorder of the system, which might lead some persons to think that it was of a nervous character; but the *situation* of the pain, and the *feelings* of the patient will be the best criterion. It is, however, of very small importance, as the treatment of one affection will not much influence the other.

"The pulse, in common rheumatic head-aches, is but seldom above ninety in a minute; and the duration of it cannot well be defined. It generally goes off soon after the application of suitable remedies, but in other instances, the weather seems to exercise a considerable influence over it; for until the atmosphere undergoes a change, from a state of humidity to that of dryness, the patient experiences no deviation from the energy of the attack.

"In the treatment of this affection," Mr. F. has found the "application of warmth, and exhibition of some aperient, to remove it. Perspiration having a salutary effect, it should be excited by diluent drinks, and a little bed confinement. If the pain is situated in the temporal muscles, the use of a stimulating liniment is indicated; and if it be very severe, the application of blisters may be necessary.

"Those who are subject to this disease should guard against the transitions in the temperature of the atmosphere, by regulating their clothing. The head ought to be covered when in a current of air (be it

ever so trifling), for by it rheumatic head-ache is most commonly produced. Flannel worn next the skin should not be neglected by rheumatic persons; and it should never be dispensed with, notwithstanding the weather may be extremely warm; for it is on that account that it becomes particularly beneficial by preventing rapid evaporation of perspirable matter, which is one of the chief causes of rheumatism."

Plethoric Head-Ache.—"This species differs essentially from any other. Comparatively speaking, the other species may be held as trivial, for they do not seem to have any influence in abstracting from the ordinary longevity of man; neither do they lead to consequences, which produce a tantamount misfortune; for it would be difficult to choose between death and madness. I say this," observes Mr. F., "in reference to those head-aches which are induced by a *fulness* of the vessels of the brain, for it is from such causes apoplexy arises, and the total alienation of intellectual faculties. Seeing then, that a head-ache of a peculiar nature is often the precursor of sudden dissolution, or of a mental malady, it behoves the profession to inquire into its particular characteristics.

"The symptoms which indicate plethoric head-ache are:—A dull and deep-seated pain on the top of the head, extending downwards towards the back. Sometimes the uneasiness is felt in the forehead and eyes, with a sense of tightness and fulness, together with a dizziness, which is much increased on stooping the head. The sight at times is diminished, and sometimes for a moment it is totally eclipsed. There is, likewise, a peculiar noise in the ears, resembling the sound of a distant cascade, or of the sea, or the humming of bees.

"There are very many cases in which these symptoms will not be presented; the pain being confined to the top or *back of the head*, and it is of so obtuse a nature that it is but little regarded. It is the insidious character of this pain that renders this malady so dangerous. The absence of painful sensations, together with a good appetite, and 'a flow of soul,' which induce some men to anticipate lengthened years of enjoyment and ease; but perhaps it is at this very moment that death hurries his victim beyond the boundary of the healing art."

"Head-ache depending on a fulness of blood in the vessels of the brain, may be distinguished from that which is produced by a redundancy of bile, by the pain being situated on the *crown* or *back part* of the head, and being much increased on stooping; by the sight becoming suddenly dim, and frequently a sense of fulness in the nose and forehead. This latter symptom is generally found in those who are constrained from the nature of their employments to stoop the head. Another sign of over-distention of blood-vessels is, the head cannot be shaken without producing confusion or giddiness, and frequently there is an impatience of light and noise."

"The copious abstraction of blood is the chief remedy. If this fails in procuring relief, recourse must be had to cupping, as near to the part affected as possible. The bowels should be moved by some active purgative, and the action of it kept up until there be a tolerable remission of pain. Few people can imagine how efficacious purging is in such affections. I have often," says Mr. F., "succeeded in reducing the pulse by means of a powerful cathartic. A blister applied to the nape of the neck, or behind each ear, proves an useful auxiliary.

"The shower bath forms a considerable adjunct in the treatment of plethoric head-ache. It should be applied in the morning, soon after rising; a perseverance in it will soon remove the preternatural heat, which generally accompanies such affections, whilst it promotes the egress of the redundant blood from the head.

"The hair of plethoric people should be worn extremely short, and the head, when in a recumbent posture, should be elevated considerably above the trunk of the body. If a night-cap be worn, it should be of the thinnest texture; one resembling *net-work* would be the most proper. It is not a little astonishing to observe the inconsistency of many people with respect to this article of dress. They will expose their bare heads to the inclemency of the weather during the day, and envelop them in a thick double night-cap during the hours of repose, when the head is additionally protected from cold by curtains. Does not this appear to be a too servile adherence to mere custom? These remarks will apply to those who are in the habit of wearing fur caps, or any thing which has the effect of retaining heat in the head."

A low diet should be strictly observed, and exercise freely taken.—Mr. F. condemns the practice of eating suppers, and advises the head to be kept cool and the feet warm.

As the head sympathizes particularly with the stomach, and indigestion being the cause of different affections of the head, Mr. Farmer has very properly added to his Essay on Head-ache a chapter on Indigestion. Although Mr. Farmer has published the work for popular reference, we think junior practitioners would do right to read it with attention.

THE LATE QUEEN.—The disease which terminated the life of her late Majesty, is named Introsusception. It consists in the introduction of a portion of intestine into another, so as to prevent the passing of the fæces downwards. Inflammation soon intervenes, which increases the obstruction, and the introsuscepted portion of the intestines is often so compressed by the external portion (forming a kind of ring), as to stop the circulation of the blood in it and thereby occasion mortification. The most active means were very judiciously employed by Dr. Holland on the first attack of the malady, as copious bleeding, warm-bath, lavements, aperient medicines, and anodynes, to prevent inflammation and to assist nature in effecting the liberation of the incarcerated part, but in consequence of corpulency and plethoric habit of body, they failed to produce any other effects than that of mitigating her sufferings. Quicksilver, which has been found to succeed in this disease, by its mechanical pressure, had also a fair trial. When gangrene takes place it is common, in consequence of the flaccidity of the parts, for a small quantity of the contents of the upper portion of the intestine to escape, and soon after the arrival of Dr. Baillie, this took place, and induced this gentleman to suppose that the introsuscepted portion of the intestine had receded, and that the case would terminate favourably. A bulletin to this effect was accordingly exhibited, but the appearance and quantity of the evacuated fæces, did not, in our opinion, warrant such conclusion, and we are surprised that Dr. Holland, who is acquainted with surgery (to which the case properly belonged) should have added his signature to the report. The three ultra-physicians having all agreed as to the favourable indication of the change, Doctor

Holland could not, however, consistently with etiquette, decline it. Introsusception of the rectum is not a dangerous disease, on account of its admitting of instrumental treatment, by which the introsuscepted portion may be with great facility set at liberty, but the seat of the disease of her late Majesty, was too high up to admit of such aid. In a former number we have noticed the operation of gastrotomy (laying open the integuments of the abdomen) by which, it has been said, the Baroness de Lundi was cured of introsusception attended with many unfavourable symptoms. This is a very formidable operation, and the chance of recovery after it, is perhaps as small as that from introsusception. When the case is evidently not to be cured by any other means than laying open the abdomen, we see no reason why recourse should not be had to it. The case should be considered in the light of a strangulated rupture, and we know that many have been cured by the operation, after unfavourable symptoms, and even gangrene, had commenced in the incarcerated portion of the intestine. In introsusception, however, adhesions soon take place between the incarcerated portion and that which confines it; so that after four or five days, it is probably in a state which will not admit of extrication of the introsuscepted part. Dr. Hull has suggested the forcible injection of air, in cases of introsusception, and as the pressure would fall on the lower part of the incarcerated portion, it would be much more likely to succeed than that of quicksilver, the pressure of which falls on the upper part. We have known air to be thrown into the rectum with considerable force, by an accident with Machin's lavement apparatus, and the rapidity and force with which it passed upwards, through the whole intestinal canal, astonished the patient and his medical attendant. The whole escaped through the mouth and nostrils in less than half a minute. We are therefore inclined to agree with Dr. Hull that the injection of air into the rectum with force, (as by Machin's instrument) is very likely to prove beneficial in a case of introsusception. We have been very credibly informed that her Majesty's mental affliction, or her prospects of happiness in this country, originated in a circumstance, which, from motives of delicacy, we have, after much reflection, determined not to notice at present. Other females having been rendered miserable for life by the same erroneous conclusions of their husbands after consummation of marriage, we may probably introduce the subject, in as delicate a manner as it will admit of, in our next number. As the absurd opinion given by a Greek philosopher generally prevails, and has been the cause of very much human misery, and even of death itself, the antidote should be extensively diffused. The declaration made by a Great Man, the day after the consummation of his marriage, we at present intend to notice in our next number, with a few similar cases that have occurred in the course of our practice, and if we should deviate a little from our original plan, we beg our readers will attribute it to no other motive than that of humanity.

NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.---In consequence of Professor Antommarchi having determined to publish the particulars of the disease of the late Napoleon Buonaparte, we have been disappointed in receiving any additional information relative to the commencement, progress, treatment, &c. of his ailment, and the appearances the stomach and liver exhibited on dissection. We find that Napoleon, after becoming

acquainted with the Professor, was very partial to his society, and that he was for some time on terms of great intimacy with him, in consequence of his being a native of Corsica. A short time after the first attack of his last indisposition, he became exceedingly irritable and hypochondriacal, and evinced great dissatisfaction in consequence of his complaint continuing to advance. He had a most invincible antipathy to mercury, which Antommarchi was very desirous to administer. Indeed, from the information we have obtained from an authentic source, we are satisfied, that had Napoleon followed the advice of Professor Antommarchi, his disease would not have terminated fatally. The principal reason why Antommarchi did not add his name to the statement of the morbid appearances which the stomach, &c. exhibited on dissection, was, the English physicians and surgeons, who were present at the examination, having omitted to give the deceased the title of Emperor. Antommarchi having been appointed by the Pope, Physician to the *Emperor*, the English physicians and surgeons, who were merely spectators, should have paid him the compliment of adding his signature before their own. We also understand that the statement was not so correct or scientific as Antommarchi wished it to be. Our friend states that Antommarchi did discover disease in the substance of the liver of long standing, and which confirmed the opinion given by his former physician, Dr. O'Meara. In our next number, we hope we shall be able to give some practical remarks on Professor Antommarchi's statement.

We are sorry we cannot comply with the request of numerous subscribers, to give the composition of the famous water of succession of Italy, termed *aqua toffana*. Some English writers state, that the basis of it is arsenic, but we are credibly informed that the composition is known only to a few families in Italy. Some suppose that it is an animal poison (obtained from a fish), whilst others assert, that it is the prussic acid. It is worthy of notice, that the disease of the stomach, which terminated the life of Napoleon, became common in fenny countries, particularly Lincolnshire, after the use of Edwards's ague drops, the basis of which is arsenic, and that it was attended with the same effusion of serum in the chest. The effects of the continued use of arsenic in producing scirrhosity of the stomach, we have noticed in an early number. In an account of the proceedings of the school at Alford, established for the improvement of veterinary medicine, which was recently published, we find the following observations: "An accumulation of serum in the cavity of the chest is very generally discovered in animals which were poisoned by arsenic." The cause of the effusion of serum in the cavity of the chest, in the case of Napoleon Buonaparte, will, no doubt, be given satisfactorily in the intended publication of Professor Antommarchi. The English nation, more than any other, is apt to suspect something dishonourable, when the cause of death is not satisfactorily or candidly stated. We confess, that to us the case appears to be involved in obscurity, which we hope Professor Antommarchi's "Account" will dissipate. We do not mean to insinuate that scirrhosity of the stomach is an uncommon disease in this country. On the contrary, we believe it to be as common as any chronic affection of the viscera, but scirrhosity of stomach, attended with general obesity, and advancing to ulceration so rapidly as noticed in the case of Napoleon, is an occurrence of which we never heard.

WEN.—Surgeon James, of Exeter, has communicated to the Medico-chirurgical Society of London, a case of Wen, in which the treatment recommended by Dr. Quadri (noticed in a late Number of our work) proved successful. The tumor was of the size of a large flattened orange, firm and elastic. It extended to the breast bone, and evidently compressed the wind pipe. Mr. James gives the following account of the operation, &c.

"A trocar needle,* armed with silk, was passed obliquely through the tumour from above downwards, and from left to right as nearly through its centre as I could direct it: some glairy fluid escaped, most probably from a cyst, and he experienced immediate relief from the consequent diminution in the bulk of the swelling, which was about one-third, and he breathed freely and easily.

"On the following day the obstruction was again manifest, and his face was flushed. I directed him to be bled and purged; his pulse was frequent and soft.

"On the subsequent days there was increased difficulty of breathing, very harrassing cough, his voice became suppressed, as in inflammation of the larynx; copious expectoration; his countenance haggard; pulse very frequent, small and weak. Under these circumstances I withdrew the seton, on or about the 28th of December.

"These symptoms abated only in a slight degree after the seton was removed; and there seemed much reason to fear that mortification had taken place in the trachea and bronchiæ, and would prove destructive; at this time he expectorated some quantity of transparent and firm lymph, bearing more the appearance of calves'-foot jelly than any thing else, and shortly afterwards layers bearing the appearance of adventitious membrane; and at the same time a similar substance could be drawn out of the orifices made by the seton, which had ulcerated. During this time there was puriform mucus expectorated, and a great degree of orthopnœa: nevertheless, at the expiration of a month from the time of the operation, these symptoms had much diminished, and the tumour had lessened very considerably. On the 29th of January, the irritation of the trachea, the cough, and the constitutional disturbance had disappeared, and on February 6th, the tumour had also entirely disappeared, leaving no other traces of its existence than the scars of the seton needle employed for its cure. He regained a state of perfect health, and many months afterwards this continued, when he went to London, and I took that opportunity of desiring him to show himself to Mr. Abernethy, by which means his case became known to you."

On this case Mr. James makes the following judicious remarks:—

"1. From the increase of the tumour, and the increasing difficulty in respiration prior to the operation, the case would, in all probability, have soon terminated fatally by suffocation, which was also the patient's own conviction.

---

* The common needle used for passing setons in hydrocele.

"2*dly*. None of the ordinary means were capable of relieving him.

"3*dly*. He owed his cure to this operation.

"With regard to the symptoms which occurred in the wind-pipe, they seem difficult of explanation. It may be conjectured that the needle had traversed the trachea; but then there would have been immediate obstruction from the presence of the silk; there would have been an irritation at once, as in those cases where a canula has been introduced in the operation of bronchotomy, and more speedily increasing from the nature of the substance—silk; there would also have been some expectoration of blood in all probability: nay more, had this been the case, there would have been a communication between the trachea and the external wounds. But after the seton had been withdrawn at the time the adventitious membrane presented itself at the wounds, and was also expectorated, the flame of a candle placed before these wounds was not in the least affected when he closed his nostrils and mouth and endeavoured to expel the air from his lungs with full force. This was repeatedly tried, and with the same result. From considering these circumstances, and from not having the least reason to suppose from any one cause at the time of the operation that the trachea was wounded, I must believe that it was not, and that the inflammation which did occur, was communicated from the tumour to it: and it is material to remember that considerable cough and affection of this passage had existed previously to it.

"As I expected to find the tumour subside under the discharge produced by the seton, I was desirous to keep it in, and did so until the urgency of the symptons compelled me to withdraw it.

"The feebleness and frequency of the pulse became so great, that I feared to have recourse to very active measures to reduce inflammation under the circumstances; for as long as the cause subsisted, no means employed would remove it. I encouraged the suppuration from the part by fomentations and poultices; and in proportion as the local disease got well, the general affection of the mucus membrane of the lungs subsided.

"Upon the whole I should conclude, on comparing this with Dr. Quadri's cases, that the operation was more urgently called for than in them; that it was attended with more formidable symptoms, and that its success was more remarkable and complete."

The patient had been under the care of Drs. Daniels and Blackhall of Exeter, from whose treatment he did not derive the smallest benefit. The remedies these physicians employed, Mr. James has not noticed. The case occured before the properties of Jodine in dispersing this species of tumour, were known. We have lately met with a case of wen attended with symptoms of pulmonary consumption, in which the tincture of Jodine, in the dose of twenty drops twice a day, in a glass of the decoction of iceland moss, not only succeeded in dispersing the tumour, but in restoring the patient to health. She was evidently of a scrofulous habit, and to the antiscrofulous property of the remedy we attribute her recovery.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A little time since a boy aged ten years,

the son of very poor labourers in the neighbourhood of Smithfield, died suddenly. Having been of a healthy constitution, and always cheerful, the circumstance gave rise to some reports not very creditable to the master of the parochial school which he had regularly attended. The trustees, highly to their credit, employed Mr. Price, of Upper East Smithfield, to examine the body, previously to the coroner's inquest, in order to satisfy the jury as to the cause of his sudden dissolution. Mr. Price, on dissection, discovered an hydatid in the heart, which he sent to Sir Astley Cooper, bart. and surgeon, to whom he afterwards addressed the following letter:—

"Dear Sir,—The following are the only particulars I am able to collect of the case of hydatid of the heart, the preparation of which I sent to you.

"James Philpot, the subject of this case, was ten years of age, well grown, and of a remarkably good disposition. His parents are in very indigent circumstances, and have had altogether fourteen children; twelve of whom they have buried. I was desirous of knowing the diseases of which so great a proportion of their children had died; and found that two had died with croup, three of small-pox, one of measles, one through accident, and four of infantile diseases; the two surviving are of an adult age, and are robust and healthy.

"The boy in question had but one attack of the affection he then laboured under.

"He was of a cheerful disposition, and always entered with alacrity into all the amusements of children of his age. He never complained of languor or fatigue, neither did he experience the smallest inconvenience from the exertion of going quickly up stairs. He never had any difficulty of breathing, nor did he ever complain of palpitation.

"He was in the habit of going daily to the parochial charity school, and on the morning of the day he died, he appeared there with dirty hands. The master sent him home, requesting that his mother would wash him. This request, it appears, was not complied with, and, in the afternoon, he returned again with unwashed hands. The master ordered one of the boys to take him into the yard and wash him; but the boy exceeded his instructions, and instead of simply washing him as directed, took off his shirt and splashed him with cold water. The poor fellow, however, seemed very well after this ablution, and left school with the rest of the boys, in apparent good health and spirits. When he had proceeded a short distance from the school-house, he suddenly fell on his hands and knees on the pavement; he got up and leaned on a window-frame; presently he raised himself and fell backwards. A person went up to him, and asked what was the matter? he answered "for God's sake take me home." My assistant saw him a few minutes after, but he was quite dead.

"Blame having been imputed to the master, by people in the neighbourhood, the trustees of the school became anxious for a full investigation of all the circumstances which preceded the boy's death, and requested that I would examine the body before the coroner held his inquest, to ascertain if there was any natural cause

for such a sudden dissolution. In compliance with the instructions which I received, I minutely examined the brain, the abdominal viscera, and the contents of the thorax; and I found every part perfectly healthy, with the exception of the heart and the portion of pericardium, which was adhering to it. In the latter were about two ounces of dark-coloured fluid. In the muscular substance of the heart was found a large hydatid.

"I am, dear sir, yours, &c.

"9, Upper East Smitfield." "DAVID PRICE."

The learned surgeon has neglected to state in what part of the heart he discovered the hydatid. An hydatid in the heart being a very unusual occurrence, he should have noticed at least in which ventricle he found it, and to what part, *if any*, it was attached.—Coagula are always found in the heart, but no surgeon of late years has attributed death to them; and we cannot help thinking that the hydatid Mr. Price discovered was serum which separated from the blood in the formation of a coagulum. If the hydated was the cause of the boy's death, surely the gradual growth of it would have previously affected his general health. Long before it arrived to the size capable of stopping the action of the heart, it would have interrupted its motions, so as to affect materially his system; but instead of this, the boy was perfectly well, and in high spirit a few minutes before his dissolution !!! We are sorry Mr. Price has omitted to state, to what punishment the unfortunate boy had been subjected for having returned to school with dirty hands. To us, the case, like some others which have lately occurred in this country, is involved in much obscurity.

ANEURISM OF THE CAROTID ARTERY.—Mr. Coates, surgeon, of Salisbury, has published a case of this very formidable disease, in which the operation of tying proved unsuccessful. The patient was 41 years of age, and the tumour, from the drawing which accompanies his narrative, was unusualy great. The sheath of the artery being opened, a moderately sized ligature of waxed thread was passed under it, by an aneurismal needle, and tied. The wound was then drawn together by straps of adhesive plaister. The pulsation in the tumour instantly ceased, the patient became faint, which lasted only a few minutes. He was put to bed, and a dose of laudanum administered. The following day, his pulse being quick and full, blood was taken from a vein till he fainted. He afterwards appeared more tranquil and experienced refreshing sleep. The wound went on favourably for some weeks. At length the hæmorrhages occurred, and the aneurismal tumour inflamed, and was full of coagula, and the patient gradually sunk. On this case Mr. Coates observes—

"Reviewing the circumstances of this case, it may be a question whether the contents of the anuerismal sac should not have been earlier discharged. It was indeed originally my intention to do so, had not the absorption proceeded with rapidity, so early after the operation. I think I would adopt this course, should a similar case occur to me; for it appears that the coagula produced the severe symptoms of local inflammation, which caused the enlargement of the anatomising vessels, and subsequent hæmorrhage. But I had a

difficult and delicate course to steer, with few examples for my guidance, and the exact limit to which an operator may proceed in such unusual cases, can be determined only by successive experiments."

TAPE WORM.—In one of our early Numbers we have inserted a communication from Colonel Wortley, on the efficacy of the bark of the root of the pomegranate tree, in the speedy destruction of the life of the Tape Worm. Mr. Breton, surgeon to the Rhamgur battalion in the East Indies, has lately sent to the Medico-chirurgical Society six cases of this disease, in which he has administered the remedy with the same success as that noticed by Colonel Wortley. We select the following case on acccount of its affording the most decisive evidence of the efficacy of the remedy.

"May 3, 1811.—Ghesa, a native, says, that for a long time he had experienced sensations which induced him to believe he was troubled with worms, and for the last four months he had actually been in the habit of passing fragments of them.

"The species of worms of which he complained, having been ascertained, I thought it a fair opportunity of trying the effect of the *dried* bark of the root of the pomegranate tree; and accordingly I prepared a decoction, by boiling two ounces of it in a pint and a half of water to three-fourths of a pint, of which I administered a wine glassful at 8 A. M., repeating that quantity every half hour, till four doses were taken. About ten o'clock the man complained so much of sickness at stomach, giddiness and uneasy sensations in his bowels, that I was deterred from giving him a fifth dose. About half an hour after 10 he complained of faintness, and vomited a little. A few minutes after 11 A. M. he voided an entire tænia alive, measuring nineteen feet two inches in length. Immediately after passing the worm, he was affected with faintness, an universal tremour, and felt sick for several hours after.

"This case affords abundant proof of the efficacy of the *dried* bark of the pomegranate root, and of its great activity in removing tænia. It seems also to warrant the conclusion, that the decoction made of two ounces of the *dried* bark is rather too powerful, and that the exhibition of it may, possibly, be attended with some danger.—I am therefore of opinion, that a smaller quantity of the *dried* bark would answer the same purpose, without exciting a train of sensations so distressing in themselves. This inference is collaterally supported by the circumstance of the *recent* bark sustaining a considerable diminution of weight by the simple process of drying in the sun, so that by the dissipation of its aqueous or sappy particles, its active powers are condensed and united. To ascertain precisely the difference of weight between the fresh and dried bark, I examined a number of papers, each containing two ounces of the recent bark, taken indiscriminately out of a basket, and found that the medium loss of weight of each paper, in drying, amounted to seven drachms.

"The patient above-mentioned is a butcher by trade, of a robust constitution, and forty years old. The quantity of decoction given at each dose was two ounces, measured by a graduated glass measure."

A gentleman, lately returned from Ceylon, informs us that he has found the rind of the pomegranate fruit, either in powder or decoction, to answer as well as the bark of the root, in destroying this species of worm, which may be obtained at the shop of any respectable chemist in this country.

ELECTRICITY AND GALVANISM. — About 25 years ago electricity and galvanism were highly extolled as a remedy for cases of local debility or palsy, and many cases were published of local palsy in particular—as deafness, gutta serena, incontinence of urine, &c. in which they proved very beneficial. The remedy, like all new discoveries and theories, was quacked; and being applied to every case of palsy and rheumatism, without regard to the exciting or predisposing causes, by advertisers unacquainted with medicine, it in some instances was productive of serious consequences, particularly in cases of palsy, which were the sequels of apoplexy, or injury of the brain. One cause of its not having then had a fair trial, was the ignorance of many practitioners of the nature of the fluids, and the method of applying them; and of their not admitting of condensation so as to be administered in the form of draught, pill or bolus. Another reason we have heard assigned by a surgeon in good practice, for this active remedy having been neglected, is, that he often found the operator to interfere so much with the cases of the patients he recommended to him, and in some instances to advise them to consult another practitioner, that he determined to give up the remedy altogether. Within the last six years, the use of the galvanic fluid, which is probably a modification of the electric fluid, has been revived in a variety of local diseases, and extended to affections of the lungs, stomach, and intestines, arising from sub-irritation, or debility. The experiments of Dr. Philip, and others, we think, indisputably prove that the galvanic fluid is similar to the subtle fluid, which is termed the nervous, and that the secretions or functions of a viscus is promoted by conducting a stream of it through its substance. The results of the experiments made by M. La Beaume, in numerous cases of obstinate costiveness, indigestion, gutta serena, palsy, rheumatism, &c. afford ample evidence of its being capable, of itself, when judiciously administered, of curing very formidable diseases; but whoever considers the important office of the brain and nerves in the animal economy—that in them the primary moving powers of the body reside—that the secretions of the different viscera and glands, and that even the remotest parts of the body, derive their power of acting from the brain; and that on the nervous system, the electric or galvanic fluid primarily acts; that, in fact, they are the only remedies which act immediately on the nerves, must be aware that it is at least a most powerful auxiliary to medicine, and in judicious hands capable of promoting the operation of tonic medicine applied to the stomach in cases of debility. Indeed we have known it to succeed in conjunction with tonic medicines, in restoring patients to health after the most powerful tonics, with active stimulants, had failed to produce any beneficial effect. In indolent affections of the liver, it has promoted the secretion of the bile,

after mercury had proved ineffectual. In a former Number we have noticed M. La Beaume's scientific publication on Galvanism and Electricity. We have now the pleasure to introduce to our Readers another work by Mr. James Price, an experienced and scientific surgeon of London, entitled "An Essay on the Medical Application of Elictricity and Galvanism;" to which he has added, "A concise descriptive account of the diseases incident to the human frame; and particularly those to the cure of which he considers electricity and galvanism applicable." He has been induced to offer the work to the public, by the success which has attended his practice in the use of electricity.

Those diseases (says he) arising from a derangement of the functions of the digestive organs, commonly called bilious, nervous, &c. are relieved by a modification of this powerful agent; and in habitual constipation of the bowels, chronic reheumatism, some species of deafness, and habitual asthma, its application is almost invariably successful.—Were this agent beneficial in no other complaints than in those to which females are peculiarly subjected, it must be considered as extremely useful. I can state with confidence, that in my practice, by the aid of this active principle, I have succeeded in relieving those diseases where every other means have failed. This agent is perfectly manageable, and may be applied without giving more pain than can be borne by an infant, since shocks are rendered unnecessary. That universal success should attend the application of this agent in every disease more than any other, would be ridiculous to assert. I am well aware at the same time that want of success very frequently arises from the want of knowledge of the mode of applying it; defective apparatus, or what is equally probable, ignorance of the disease which it was intended should be relieved. The beneficial effects of this active principle, that is itself an important part of our constitution, must be so obvious, that comments in this place appear unnecessary, further than to state that it meets with the approbation of the professional characters of the greatest eminence in every country."

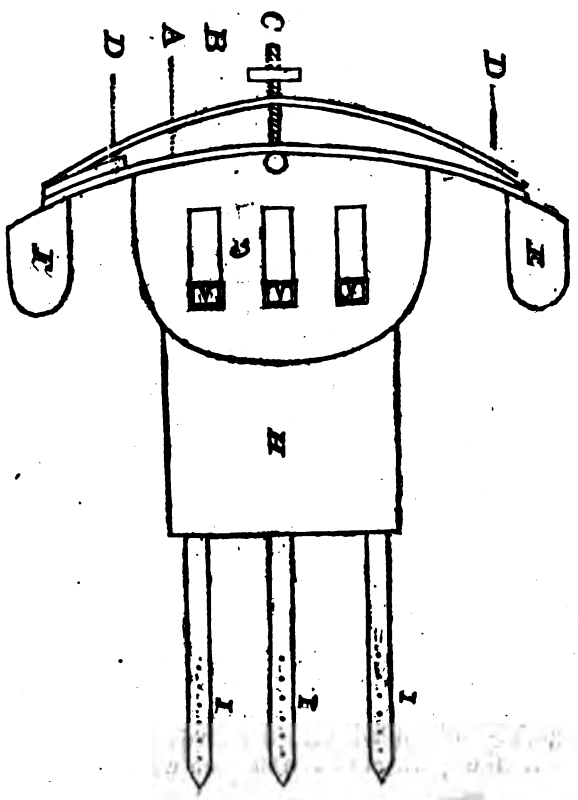
Mr. Price, like a man of science whose object is to lessen the sum of human misery, to restore the afflicted to health, and to increase the comforts of those whose cases admit only of palliation, points out the *medical* treatment of the disease, in which electricity and galvanism may be employed with the most decided advantage, and gives very explicit instruction for its application in each. The following extract will enable our readers to form their own opinions of the professional merits of Mr. Price:—

"Nine-tenths of diseases, local and general, arise from a derangement of the digestive organs, however induced. Bilious complaints, as they are commonly called, with their long train of symptoms,—as giddiness, pain in the head, feverish heat, restlessness, cramp, melancholy, &c. as well as those unhappy feelings called nervous, may be traced to a derangement of the digestive organs, where the indications of cure are to restore their functions, when in proportion to the success attending such attempts, the general health is amended. Complaints that are considered local, some species of blindness, deafness,

&c. arise from the same cause, and the successful mode of treatment is to restore the functional derangement of the digestive organs, as well as in all chronic and constitutional complaints,—such as scrofula, scirrhous, cancer, gout, &c. The peculiarity of constitution, implied by the terms scrofulous, scirrhous, or gouty habits, cannot, perhaps, by any mode of treatment, be effectually changed; but great progress has been made to ameliorate the sufferings of these, by paying due attention to those functions upon which all others more or less depend—the functions of the digestive organs; attending to the quantity and quality of the food, is one of the most essential points, either as a curative indication or a preventive. Where there has been aberration from a state of health for some time, a little medicine may be required, which will most essentially be assisted in its operation by the *judicious* application of the electric fluid: indeed the latter application may supersede the necessity for taking medicine in many instances. It may not be improper to state here, that the greater number of my patients have come to be electrified with the greatest apprehension, from a supposition that the operation would be painful, who are not the less surprised when they find that so far is it from being painful, it is even applied to diseases of that delicate organ, the eye, and the sharpest application that is required to be made, in any case, can be borne by the most delicate female, or even an infant. Many hundreds of the fair sex perish annually from complaints peculiar to them, which might be restored to perfect health, by the judicious application of this agent. I regard it as a specific, having never, in any one instance, failed to produce the desired effects, by some for years, where every other means had proved unsuccessful. Electricity may also be applied in all cases of chronic inflammation of the liver; inflammation, or ulcerated sore throat; chronic inflammation of the joints, as well as white swellings; rheumatism: the latter, I may say, it is a specific for, as I never apply it but with complete success; erysipelas; paralysis; pectoral angina; hypochondriacism; asthma; melancholy; dropsy; obstinate remittents; spasms; numbness and coldness of the limbs; scrofulous tumours; eruptions on the face; hydrocephalus internus; violent pains in the head; sprains; scirrhous glands; defective secretion of urine; involuntary flow of urine; defective secretion in the testes, and inability to enjoy the softer pleasures, that frequently arise from pernicious practices of youth, and other causes; chilblains it is a specific for; ulcers, some cases of which have come under my care, where they could not be healed in many months application of adhesive plaister, bandages, &c. that have healed as if by charm, by the application of electricity; ganglions; chronic opthalmia; opacity of the cornea, &c. &c.:—thus this tremendous agent in the operations of nature, that excites so much terror, is now brought to be directly subservient to man, and applied to disease, in such a manner, to which the most timid may submit without the least apprehension: even the old mode of electrifying by shocks, is found not only unnecessary, but improper. The different applications are the electric aura, sparks, and vibratory motion, the intensity of which are modified as circumstances indicate."

It may appear strange to some of our non-medical readers, that an agent so active should be applicable to diseases opposite in their nature; but the effect of electricity depends on the *manner* in which it is applied.—When it is conveyed in sparks, it operates as a stimulant, rousing the action of the nerves; but when the aura is applied, it allays nervous irritation, and abates inflammatory action. In cases of acute inflammation of the eyes, the electric aura was a very favorite remedy with the late Dr. Campbell, an eminent physician of Stafford; and at the Hereford Infirmary we have applied the aura, in cases of the inflammation of the eye and of morbid excitement of the optic nerve, with the most striking advantage. Mr. Price's work we consider a very valuable production, and as such we recommend it to theperusal of our Readers.—Independent of being a popular dissertation on electricity and galvanism, it will be found to be a good work for domestic and indeed professional reference, in a great variety of diseases.

CONTRACTED LIMBS.—The following is a sketch of an instrument, which Mr. Gaitskill, of Rotherhithe, has found highly useful in counteracting morbid contractions of the flexor muscles of the leg, the sequel of chronic inflammation of the knee joint and its appendages.



* Made by Baker and Co. 24, Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

The outline Mr. G. states, was copied from an instrument in possession of one of his apprentices, who was lame and recovered the full use of his leg by the aid of it, after wearing a high-heeled shoe for four years. It was recommended to him by an empiric, who received twenty guineas for the cure, and completed it in twelve months. Mr. G. has published the following case in which he employed the instrument with success.

"A delicate boy, about six years of age, was attacked with a scrofulous inflammation of the left knee joint, which terminated in suppuration, with symptoms of hectic fever. He was so emaciated, as to appear a perfect skeleton. In this state, being a patient in one of the hospitals, amputation was proposed; but his mother refusing her consent, he was brought home and placed under my care, without the smallest hope of recovery.

"After twelve months severe suffering from several abscesses discharging at numerous apertures, he finally recovered, but with such a contraction of the flexor muscles of the leg, as to draw it considerably backward; when standing erect the foot rested on his toe. The medical treatment consisted of hemlock fomentations, linseed-meal poultices, bark, and soda, with pure air, and nutritious diet. Should the instrument, observes Mr. Gaitskill, prove as useful to others as those I have advised to make trial of it, I shall feel thankful to the inventor, and happy in having made it known to the public."

EXPLANATION OF THE SKETCH.

A, a steel bow, with a joint in the centre; C, which advances to, or recedes from the steel bow, B, by a small screw, C, aided by a female nut. The male screw is pinned into the joint, and works through a perforation in the bow, B, which the nut regulates.

B. A steel bow without a joint, fixed on the projection of steel D, at the lower end of A, and groved above, to move on a similar projection at the end. D, two projections of iron.

E, A concave thin plate of elastic iron, lined on the concave side by thin leather, stuffed with wool, and on the convex with dog-skin, and rivetted firmly to A.

F, A similar plate with letter E, and made of the same materials. E. embraces the calf of the leg, and F the ham strings, which become two fixed points, and are separated or brought nearer, in proportion as A is straightened or curved.

G. A broad thin iron plate, elastic and lined inside and out with leather fixed into A, the joint C being its centre. This goes to the posterior side of the joint, and his hollow behind the ham-strings, while the broard leather H comes over the patella and sides of the knee with three straps perforated to buckle on G.

H, The broad flap.

I I I, The straps.

One hole of the strap is to be taken up every third day, which extends the joint gradually. It is only to be worn in the day-time. At night the space between the calf of the leg and the back of the thigh is to be filled with a convex piece of wood, or cork, adapted to the parts, and confined on with some yards of tape or

bandage, to preserve the extension which the instrument may have gained in the day time.

PURULENT DISCHARGE FROM THE EAR. — The following judicious remarks on this very unpleasant, and often very obstinate disease, are from the pen of Mr. Swan, a scientific surgeon, of Lincoln:—

"Doubts have long existed in the minds of many men of the highest eminence in the profession, about the proper treatment of diseases of the ear when attended by a purulent discharge. So different indeed have been the modes and sentiments of different practitioners, that some have been entirely averse to any attempts to check the discharge.

"Mr. Saunders, to whom the world is much indebted for his researches into the nature and treatment of diseases of the ear, has not objected to putting a stop to the discharge in any case; and his plan is acted upon, at the present time, with the greatest advantage in general, to those who are affected with this disease: but as cases now and then occur, where the stoppage of the discharge, or even the attempt to stop it, is attended with dangerous, and often fatal consequences, I thought it might not be amiss to endeavour to point out the cases where experience shows there is ground for such apprehensions.

"The case I am about to relate is by no means uncommon; but I bring it forward, because, where similar ones have ended fatally, so little notice has hitherto been taken of them, with a view to point out the best method of treatment.

"Mr. S—, aged 50, had an inflammation of the membrane of the tympany, which terminated in suppuration, when abscess broke and relieved him; he afterwards complained much of his head, and had a disordered stomach. He had blisters applied, for the relief of his head, and took occasional doses of blue pill, and some other medicines. As he continued in a bad state of health, he went into the country, for change of air, where, as the discharge of the ear continued, he was recommended to use an astringent injection, as the means of putting a stop to it. After a few weeks he returned home, much benefited by his journey. Though he still complained of his head, yet, as he had used the injection without any apparent injury, I did not object to his persevering in the use of it.

"On the evening of the 8th of October I found him complaining of great dizziness, with some pain and confusion of the head. As he had eaten a hearty dinner, I conceived that the symptoms might proceed from the stomach. I therefore prescribed for him four grains of calomel, and some purging medicines, desiring at the same time, that the injection might be entirely discontinued. The next morning I found him no better, and though the pulse was hardly affected, yet I suspected the irritation from the ear had extended to the membranes of the brain, and thought the inflammation of them might possibly be impending. I took some blood from the arm, which relieved him very much. I ordered a blister to be applied to the back of the neck, and the following draught and bolus to be taken every four hours:—

" Take of Epsom salts one dram and a half.—Syrup 1 dram, Water 11 drams.—mix for a draught.

" Take of Antimonial powder 4 grains,—Calomel 1 grain, Conserve of hips sufficient to form a bolus.

" On the 10th, the appearance of the blood indicated the existence of inflammation. Some leeches were applied to the temples, and though he seemed better, yet as I was very apprehensive about the termination of his complaint, I requested that my friend Dr Cookson might see him, and his opinion as to the nature of the complaint entirely coincided with my own. The same medicines were given for some time, and afterwards some gentle tonics. He was kept perfectly still, and a strict antiphlogistic regimen was enjoined. For some time walking, or the least motion of the head, appeared to irritate the brain, producing dizziness, and most uneasy sensations in the head. The discharge, during all this time continued; but by great care, after some months it abated of itself, and though it was a long time before the head was entirely free from any affection, yet the unpleasant sensations gradually ceased; and though the hearing of the affected ear is still very far from being perfect, yet it is much better than I could reasonably expect.

" In this case the discharge of matter was very great; and if the bony wall of the tympany had not ulcerated through, as to expose the dura mater, that membrane was very much irritated; and from some cause, whether from the injection or not I cannot say, the irritation was very much increased, and communicated to the brain.

" Whenever a purulent discharge from the ear is attended with much affection of the head, suspicions ought always to be entertained that the dura mater is in a state of irritation, and on any increase of the affection of the head, effectual measures should be taken to arrest the progress of the mischief, by bleeding and a low diet.—In such cases we ought not to wait until there are decided symptoms of inflammation of the brain or its membranes, because then, as cases on record shew, suppuration extending some way on the bass of the organ, can hardly ever be prevented; but the remedies I have mentioned ought to be used immediately on the increase of pain in the head and ear.

"To those who have much considered the case, these symptoms may not seem to require such active treatment, but if both the patient and practitioner's fears are suffered to be lulled into security for many hours after their approach, by palliatives, the disease will have made such progress, as, probably, to resist the employment of every thing that can be done. I consider, therefore, that when there is a discharge from the ear, and the head is complained of, all that ought to be done is, an attention to the general health, and an attempt, by counter-irritation, as blisters behind the ears, or on the back of the neck, to remove the disease from the ear. The external ear ought not to be stopped up with cotton, or any other substance, to prevent the free escape of the matter; as I am convinced that, when the discharge is great, such a practice is very wrong, and not only adds to the irritation by its confinement, that may lead

nature to attempt some other outlet, and thus cause an absorption of the bone and consequent exposure of the dura mater. And upon the whole I think, that on no account, in the case where the discharge is accompanied by pain in the head, ought astringent injections to be used, to put a stop to the discharge; as when it has been stopped, by a perseverance in this mode of treatment, the patient has always appeared to suffer, and the consequences have been fatal."

The ear should certainly not be so closely stopped as to prevent the escape of the matter, when it is copious, but a piece of cotton should be introduced loosely to exclude the atmospheric air, the admission of which unquestionably tends to keep up inflammation, and to render the discharge more offensive as well as more irritating.

We lately met with a case of incipient watery head, and another of inflammation of the brain, in infants, which were clearly the consequences of checking a purulent discharge from the ears, by an astringent injection—To prevent such serious sequels, a small blister in the nape of the neck, or an issue should be kept open during the use of an injection and for some time after the discharge has ceased.

HYDROPHOBIA.—In the month of Feburary last a poor boy residing at No. 6, Sugar Loaf Court, Garlic Hill, when engaged in picking sugar from a cask on Cox's wharf, Thames street, a strange black dog, of the discription generally called ship dog, without any provocation, bit him on the back of his right hand, so severely as to lay the bones in some places bare. The dog was soon afterwards killed by the populace, but not before he had bit two other persons.

The boy and dog were immediately taken to Mr. Price, a surgeon of Cannon street in the city, by whom, with Mr. R. Rowley, jun. and Mr. Dendy, of Martin's Lane (to whom the boy had been servant) the dog was opened. It has been a received opinion that if no inflammatory appearances are to be found about the epiglotts, pharynxs and esophagus of animals, they are not mad. In this case no such appearances could be found, except a few distended minute branches of arteries near the epiglottis.

The propriety of amputating the boy's hand was taken into consideration, but as the madness of the dog was doubtful, it was thought better to risk the result, rather than amputate the right hand of a boy who had his living to earn.

The surface of the injured parts was, however, as much as possible removed, and nitric acid afterwards applied to every part of the bitten surface, and the wound soon healed.

The dog also bit two dogs in Martin's lane, one of which was immediately killed, the other is confined, but no symptoms of canine madness has yet appeared.

Of the other two persons, one was taken to an hospital, and the bitten part excised, but he has since died of hydrophobia; the other went into the country, to place himself under a course of some celebrated remedy for the cure of the bite of a mad dog, but has also since died of Hydrophobia.

On the 20th July (about four or five months after the bite,) this boy was taken ill. He first complained of pain in the arm (which had been bitten); but his friends supposing that he had merely laid on it in his sleep, no notice was taken of it. On the 24th the symptoms of Hydrophobia became evident, and he was visited by Mr. Price. The boy complained of great pain in the arm up to the armpit, in the course of the absorbents, and in some places the arm was swollen and red; his skin was hot, pulse quick and irregular, and he exhibited much wildness in his countenance, particularly of his eyes. On being asked if he was thirsty? he answered in the affirmative, but all the muscles of deglutition, at the idea of fluid, became much agitated and convulsed; some cold water was then offered him to drink; he attempted, with much resolution, but became so much agitated and convulsed, that he was unable to drink —Warm tea was offered him, but with the same effect. Mr. Dendy and Dr. Copeland arriving about this time, (he having been admitted a patient of a dispensary attended by them) he swallowed some jelly which they gave him, but with much agitation.

On the following day (25th) Mr. Price presented him with some fluid, which he drank with great resolution; but the muscles of the chest and diaphragm became so much convulsed, that the chest was drawn into the round form of a person's head. He was also seen by Mr. Rowley and Mr. Green (one of the surgeons of St. Thomas's hospital) and others, who were convinced that his was a decided case of Hydrophobia.

On the next day (26th) he died, without any convulsive struggle. —There were no inflammatory appearances of parts, or any disorganization whatever found on dissection.

A professional gentleman informs us that Dr. Copeland ordered spirit of turpentine to be exhibited, and that an old woman put his feet in warm water !!! Why did not the learned Doctor act with the old woman, by recommending cold water to be applied to the head?

It appears by the *Revue Encyclopeque*, a very respectable and scientific French monthly publication, that Dr. Previsali, of Pavia, has administered the oxygenated muriatic acid (chlorine) with complete success, in several cases of well marked hydrobhobia. He gave it, in some cases, to the extent of a dram and a half in the course of a day in the citron water or syrup.

RHEUMATISM.—Many practitioners suppose that the faculty would derive more valuable information from the publication of the failure of any particular mode of treatment, than from the most favourable results, but few have sufficient courage to give publicity to cases which terminated unfavourably under their care. If every practitioner were candidly to publish the cases of disease which end unfortunately, we are fearful it would but too clearly appear, that for the favourable results they were more indebted to the constitution of their patients than to their judicious treatment. Indeed to publish fortunate results only approaches very nearly to the practice of Quacks, whose nostrums they say being uniformly succesful deprive them of the opportunity of *post mortem examination!!*

Satisfied as we are, that the man who publishes the treatment of diseases which proved unsuccessful, contributes as greatly to the promotion of medical science, as he who publishes a treatment which succeeded, we have great pleasure in introducing the following case of supposed Rheumatism, which terminated unfortunately, under the care of Dr. Thompson, a gentleman of great professional attainments and experience.

" On the 16th of March last, I was requested by T. R. a sailor, aged twenty-two, to direct some application or other for his shoulder, which he said had been a day or two before attacked with rheumatism, having imprudently exposed himself to a cold wind, without a coat, shortly after using violent exercise. The pain was a gnawing rather than an acute one, extending about a third down the arm. Some difficulty was felt on raising the hand up to the head. No redness or swelling was apparent, and pressure could be applied without giving much pain. In some measure sleep was prevented, the pain being more troublesome at night than during the day, but his health was good, having neither fever, loss of appetite, nor any other symptoms indicative of systematic derangement.—The local complaint appeared to be the only one requiring attention. He was desired to keep within doors, and apply, in the manner recommended by Dr. Scudamore, the evaporating camphor embrocation. A cathartic powder, formed of jalap and calomel, was ordered to be taken in the morning, and a diluent diet was enjoined. I did not see him again for two days.

Take of Spirit of Camphor, three onnces—Compound.Spirit of Ammonia, two drachms,

Take of Compound powder of Ipecacuana, ten grains, every three hours.

20th. Symptoms as yesterday; perspired a little, in the night, but the perspiration was only partial. The powders had rather sickened him, owing probably to the quantity of liquid taken with them.

21st. Some abatement in the pain; pulse still continues regular; bowels not open since the 19th; tongue a little whitish; perspiration more general and profuse; ordered him to keep up stairs, having always before been dressed and with the family in the room below.

Take of Cream of Tartar—Jalap powder, of each one scruple, —Aromatic powder, two grains.—Mix for a powder.

22nd. The cathartic had operated well, got very little sleep in the night, the pain having troubled him much; found relief from the embrocation. Other symptoms as before, except that the pain is more diffused; pulse 74; tongue moist; is in a slight perspiration.

Continue the Compound Ipecacuana Powder.

Take of Opium, six grains, — Calomel, eighteen grains,— Syrup, a sufficient quantity for six pills—One to be taken night and morning.

At half past eleven P.M. was desired instantly to visit him, he being, as the person informed me, in a dying state. On my arrival I found him dying. From the persons by whom he was attended during the day, I collected that soon after my visit he wished to have

the embrocation applied, which was done. The recession of it to the neck, arm, and back was looked upon as auguring success, and to each part was the pain pursued with unremitting pertinacity. In the afternoon, about four o'clock, the disease attacked the pericardium or heart, (judging from the account given.) He complained of uneasiness in his breast, accompanied with difficulty in breathing, violent palpitation and faintness. These symptoms increased, although not with that severity to excite alarm, and therefore aid was not sought till it was past the power of art to extend relief; the pain left the shoulder many hours before he died, it had never had the slightest appearance of recession till the means above mentioned were so actively enforced. Permission was not given to open the body, which is much to be regretted.

"The application of stimulants to the pained parts, in acute rheumatism, has been strongly condemned by Dr. Armstrong, who relates four cases of sudden translation of the disease to vital parts, caused by the particular action of remedies thus applied to the skin. How they act, it is difficult to say, but that they will produce such effects, is now established, and has been long known. Hence then we see the necessity of pausing before we have recourse to agents which may occasionally be the cause of death, and though they may often times be employed with impunity, we are taught that sometimes dangerous consequences may ensue, nay, that in cases of local disease, unaccompanied by scarcely any constitutional derangement, unhappy effects may arise from the employment of stimulating liniments. The one above narrated, is the only one that I can refer to; yet it speaks strongly against them; in slight rheumatic affections they are commonly the only applications. Practitioners use and they are frequently beneficial; but it should never be forgotten that they possess fatal properties requiring careful restriction in their application, and assiduous attention to their action. Should the pain wander under their use, it would perhaps be the best practice to desist, and fly to constitutional means; or, if we must have outward medicaments, let us apply some inactive thing in the way of placebo, rather than persist in such threatenings with our friction, &c. thanking Etmuller and Sydenham for suggesting applications that can do no harm.

There is often a very great difference in the effects of a spirituous stimulating liniment or embrocation and an oily one.—The former (even the Camphorated Liniment of the London Pharmacopeia,) instead of inflaming the skin or producing a dertermination of blood &c. to it, acts as repellant, in consequence of the evaporation of the alcohol it contains. The camphorated Volatile oily Liniment, composed of the strong Water of Ammonia, Camphor, and Oil, uniformly irritates or inflames the skin, and therefore is a safe application in cases of acute Rheumatism. It appears not improbable to us that the pain in the shoulder, of which the sailor complained, was a mere symptom of an inflammatory action of the heart or pericardium; and had Dr. Thompson been allowed to examine the body after death, he would most likely have found one or both much inflamed, and a morbid effusion of serum in the latter.

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 70. To OCTOBER 1, 1821. VOL. VI.

PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE, &c.

THE remaining part of the article on the qualifications of the fellows of the Royal College of Physicians, to exercise the healing art with justice to their patients, the impolicy of their by-laws, their shameful neglect of the duty to the public, imposed on them by their charter, viz. the suppression of quackery and prosecution of venders of adulterated drugs, their attempt to monopolize the practice of physic within the limits of their jurisdiction, we shall introduce in the present and two subsequent numbers, in noticing the works of Dr. Paris, Mr. Gray, Mr. Shipman, Dr. Woodford, &c. We shall therefore enter on an important subject, connected with the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and other medical institutions, commencing with the causes which have evidently retarded the progress of medicine. For this article, we are proud to acknowledge ourselves indebted to the most experienced and scientific physician in Europe—a gentleman who has been a Demonstrator and Teacher of Anatomy, who has for upwards of forty years studied every branch of the profession, with the view of promoting the progress of the science, for the true honour of the profession, and the real good of mankind, and who, for the last three years, has devoted his time to the education of youth brought up to the medical profession, by giving public lectures. On completing the article, which may occupy two or three pages of several numbers, we shall be at liberty to give the name of the writer.

On the Causes which retard the Progress of Medical Science.—An attempt to facilitate the improvement of any branch of natural science, notwithstanding it may, in some measure, fall short of the full accomplishment of its professed object, will be deemed commendable, if it be conducted with that temperance and respect which a laudable zeal naturally inspires. Those branches of science which are involved in a system of medicine, in which the deepest interests of man are implicated, have a paramount claim upon the industry of all who derive benefit from other men's labours, and especially those who are devoted to the medical profession. It is not enough that we avail ourselves of those improvements which are progressive with time; common justice demands, from every one who has it to bestow, his individual mite to promote them.

Influenced by such sentiments, I am desirous of contributing my share towards the general stock of the means which may be successfully employed in the advancement of human knowledge and its practical utility; and shall commence with an inquiry into the causes which retard the improvement of medical science.

It appears to me of no less importance to discover and remove the

existing impediments, than to add new materials to the aggregate sum of what is already known, and which will constantly be requisite, for the transpositions, extension, and repairing of a system, which ought to be in a progressively advancing state towards perfection. To detect and obviate difficulties, then, shall be my first object.

Probably, I may disturb the repose of those who have settled and fixed opinions, and provoke an angry spirit in others, by becoming a competitor for public praise. I cannot, however, easily be prevailed upon to believe, that it will have any power to defeat the object I have in view, or be found one of those causes which oppose the improvement of science.

The first part of my subject is a question—what are the causes which retard the improvement of medical science? As a general answer to the question, I would say, a want of due regard to its nomenclature. This answer involves many assignable and obvious causes, seemingly independent of nomenclature, but which, by a strict investigation, will be found mere emanations from it.

What I would have understood by nomenclature, is, all the technical terms of the science it belongs to; and all terms of general import, which are rendered technical by the application of them to the particular systems of science; and I shall make some observations on some of those terms which are only virtually technical from their application.

1. *Principle.*—It is equally essential to limit technical terms to their determinate meanings, as it is just to allow them their legitimate powers; and, if I am not mistaken, it will be found that Principle, by assuming what is not its right, has lost much of its dignity and authority. Its great and limited import is Rest, and the disturbance of rest, from Αρχη principium. But when the term is perverted to the meaning of element, opinion, and even to the representation of a favourite hypothesis, it must lose some of its original power, and require the aid of some other term to explain it.

Principle is a favourite word in phraseology, not only as regards the abstruse sciences, but as regards general conversation; but, as this application of it deteriorates its importance, and renders it but little better than hypothetical, it becomes necessary to restore to it its legitimate rights, lest we shortly lose it altogether, or are compelled to abandon it. Such, for the moment, is the case with another term which had become technical from its application. Radical is the word I mean, and which carries its own meaning well enough, but it has been employed to so many, and to so base purposes, that the term radical has become hateful to some, and a bug-bear to all.

Αρχη Principium. Principle.

Αρχη απαντων και τελος ποιει Θεον

Initium omnium et finem facito Deum.

An author*, who has just favoured the world with considerable novelty of opinion and practice, enumerates more than twenty principles in midwifery, some of which he considers new principles, developed by himself.

* Mr. Power on Midwifery.

Now, before a new principle can be developed, it must be created. All principles are coeval; and all that have been, or ever will be developed, were displayed to man immediately after the creation of the universe. Nay, it appears pretty clear to me, that, principle brought all into action; that is, the disturbance of rest, was creation.

To talk of a new principle, and especially to pretend to develop one, is presumptuous. To suppose even the necessity of a new principle, implies a want of intelligence, or power, in the Author of all principle, and that his mighty works were imperfectly planned.

Were it possible to impose a new principle, some of those which are imagined to exist already, must suffer loss, to make room for, or to impart an ascribable power to the new one.

It is not a mere suggestion of fancy, that there is only one principle, and that it applies equally to all things; it comprehends all the elements of nature, and the laws by which they are governed, which cannot be abrogated, changed, or added to.

These laws, or this principle, distributed homogeneous matter into an infinity of heterogeneous substances, and at immense distances; we, therefore, can no more conceive what homogeneous matter is, than we can obtain an atom of it.

All known and describable substances are composed of certain elements; but elements are not principles—if they were, the number of principles would be multiplied to an incalculable amount; and we should not know how to employ the term element in technical language, unless we condescended to use principle for element as synonymous. This appears to be a growing fashion; but to concede so much, is unworthy of nomenclature, unworthy of language.

Neither is it out of the range of probability, that primeval matter consisted of the combination of all elements, each element possessing its own peculiar laws; that all were in a state of rest, because their association and connexion were complete.

But when the *elements* were disturbed, and distributed at immense distances from one another, a new, and as it may appear to us, a casual association of one element with another, became a resulting consequence; of course, the number and versatility of associations would be innumerable and inexplicable.

Every thing we experience manifests that the *elements* of matter have been distributed infinitely, both as regards number and distance; yet the laws, originally imposed upon each, remain unchanged and unchangeable.

The intrinsic propensity, power, and modus agendi, of any given substance, remain the same, as relates to the composition of an individual substance, as they were when all matter was one homogeneous mass, in which state the association was complete; no one element wanting what it did not possess, and no one admitting of imposition.

Therefore, all was in a state of Rest. But, when this rest was disturbed, and the distribution of elements took place, no matter by what means, through boundless space, every element retaining its peculiar laws, an active state of all became the inevitable consequence. In such active state we behold and contemplate nature in all the varieties of changes and interchanges, in all the successions of rise, progress, and

decay; in all we ascribe to known causes, and all we ascribe to causes not yet understood. For, each element still possessing its appropriate faculties, propensities, and laws, altogether amounting to the endeavour to regain its pristine state, that is, a state of rest, associates with other elements, preferring those which bear the nearest relation to itself; or which, perhaps, were originally the nearest to it in approximation.

Such a proposition obtains strength from the analysis of compound substances; and by the production of compound substances by chemical processes, which gives rise to a chemical technical term—Affinity.

This outline introduces some important observations, confirmative of a proposition, that, there is only one principle; and that confounding principle with element and opinion, has a tendency to confuse, and to retard the improvement of medical science.

Proposition 1.

Αρχη Principium.

Only one principle.

There is a principle which pervades all matter in its present state of being; that is, in its state of distribution of elements, and each element is as much governed by appropriate laws as it was in its primeval state, obedient to one principle, Rest. The principle is expounded, by every desire being satisfied; therefore, there can be no cause of action.

What primeval matter was, it is as impossible to ascertain, as it is impossible to obtain it. Whether it was solid or fluid, hot or cold, is altogether unknown.

Admitting, however, for a moment, that primeval matter did possess the attribute, Rest; and that this attribute is peculiar to it; the disturbance of rest, by the distribution of elements, accounts for the phenomena, observable in every department of natural science.

In illustrating this proposition, I shall, for the present, limit my observations to the science of Chemistry, and select a definable substance, a vegetable alkali, called potassa, for my subject.

One of the elements with which potassa is endeavouring to associate is carbonic gas; and it will take that gas from other substances which contain it. Having obtained a satisfying quantity of that gas, potassa will be changed in its appearances and sensible properties. As potassa, it is one of the most active substances we know; but when satisfied with carbonic gas, it becomes much less active. It obtains rest by associating with a kindred element, with which it is satisfied; but it is liable to be disturbed again by the invasion of some other article which has the power of dissolving this association, and consequent rest, itself taking the place of one of them.

Therefore, if a quantity of sulphuric acid be added to the association of potassa with carbonic gas, the sulphuric acid will associate with the potassa, and the carbonic gas will be dislodged. Neither will the association of sulphuric acid be secure and permanent; another still more kindred element to potassa may make invasion, take place of, and dissipate the sulphuric acid.

Now, a short analysis of these changes will furnish some interesting arguments in favour of the proposition under our notice; but this is not a place for such analysis. It may, however, be observed that all the experiments in chemistry are so many instances of elements being con-

tinually in search of associates, which they must obtain before they can be at rest; and of that state of rest being liable to be disturbed by the invasion of another more kindred object of association.

In further illustration of the proposition, I shall endeavour to shew that the operation of principle is efficere quietem, by some observations on animal life.

To ascribe animal life to an abstract principle would be giving up the proposition altogether. On the contrary, I shall shew that even, in this wide field of inquiry, there is no other principle than that which I have already stated, quietem efficere.

Mr. Power, in his Treatise on Midwifery, suggests more than twenty principles in that department, some of which he imagines new, and developed by himself.

I shall enumerate them, and select some out of the number for investigation:—

Energetic—Parturient—Of a Process—Approved—Fecundating—Energetic Uterine—Muscular—External or *Mechanical.* α Such which nature has established, *Unnatural—Correct—Actuating—Unexplained—New—Metastic—Important.* β Of the parturient state, *Undetected—Inflammatory—Nervous—Doctrinal—Latent.* γ Other. Of Division of Parturition, into *Natural* and *Unnatural—Spasmodic.* δ Of Artificial Dilatation, *Yielding.*—Of *Treatment, Hereditary—Sympathetic—Diminishing.* ε Of Gradations of Action.—General.

If there actually be so many, and so contrary, principles, which govern the process of parturition, Lord have mercy on the teachers, and bestow faith and patience on their students and the parturients; otherwise, they must all certainly perish.

(To be continued.)

PARTIAL PALSY.—In a former Number we have noticed the good effects of "nettle flagellation, in cases of palsy and chronic rheumatism."

Mr. Thomas Geast, a respectable surgeon, of Birmingham, has lately communicated to the profession, the following case of palsy of the whole arm, in which this mode of treatment, with attention to the general health, succeeded in restoring the patient to perfect health.

Miss B., about eighteen years of age, of a nervous temperament, very tall, slender, and delicate habit, described by her friends as having "outgrown her strength," had been upwards of five months afflicted with a total palsy of the right arm. The accession of the disease, she believed to have been spontaneous, as she never recollects receiving any injury. It was marked by a considerable deal of pain and œdematous swelling of the hand and fingers, the extremities of which were of a livid hue. After some time the pain and tension subsided, and were succeeded by a gradual wasting and flaccidity of the muscles, a death-like coldness, and almost complete insensibility, which, extending itself, affected the whole arm. Under these circumstances, she applied, successively, to six or seven eminent medical gentlemen, who had recourse to a multiplicity of modes of treatment; amongst which, were fomentations, frictions, and a variety of stimulating applications, to the limb, and along the back-bone; topical bleedings by leeches and cupping; blistering, electricity, galvanism, &c. &c.; which were severally

persisted in for a long time, but without being productive of any beneficial results. She at length became weary of medical treatment, and had declined making use of any further attempts for the resuscitation of her arm, supposing that the whole powers of the healing art had been already exhausted.

On the 15th of July, 1820, being called upon to attend another member of the family, the case was related to me merely by accident, not under any idea, I believe, of its being benefited by my humble efforts: neither could I entertain the presumption of supposing that any agency of mine might be crowned with success after the measures heretofore employed, had been fruitlessly expended. Fortuitously the idea of *urtication* (irritation by nettles) occurred to me, the proposition of which I perceived excited a risible propensity; however, on the same evening, a rod of nettles was procured, and its application was not delayed.

The ensuing morning was ushered in with a repetition of the piquant flagellation, and continued from time to time, through the day, such successive application evincing an increased development of sensibility.

On the morning of the 17th my astonishment was very great, when the patient came to me with an air of exultation and gratitude, displaying her arm (which had hitherto been suspended, as useless, in a sling) in every position, with all the freedom and agility of its pristine state. The long dormant faculties of sensation and motion were perfectly developed; no other trace of the affection remained but a slight weakness of the wrist, which was soon removed by a strengthening plaster and bandage.

It will be proper to observe, that this young lady had been affected for a long time with indigestion, hepatic derangement, and general nervous debility; her days were a series of inactive somnolency and unpleasurable reminiscences; at night, instead of receiving the salutary and refreshing influence of "tir'd nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep," her pillow was haunted by night-mare, and all the terrific vampire forms of a perturbed imagination. Her appetite was depraved; the sight of animal food was particularly loathsome, and her sole subsistence for many months was tea.

I commenced my medical measures with the exhibition of an emetic, composed of blue vitriol and ipecacuanha, which was afterwards occasionally repeated, and the following medicines:—

Take of Rhubarb Powder, half a drachm;
Cayenne Pepper, one scruple;
Extract of Gentian, a sufficient quantity to form a mass.—To be divided into twenty-four pills, two to be taken every morning.

Take of Infusion of Cascarilla, and Camphor Mixture, of each three ounces and a half;
Carbonate of Ammonia, one drachm;
Tincture of Columbo, Sweet Spirit of Vitriol, of each half an ounce.—Mix.—Two table spoonsful to be taken every day.
Five grains of Mercurial Pill to be taken every other night.

I directed the frequent use of the pediluvium, flannel to be worn

next the body, and woollen stockings for the inferior extremities. The further indulgence in the use of tea was strictly prohibited, and instead of it was enjoined the most regular and nutritious diet, with a liberal allowance of sherry wine. A frequent change of air and scene, and agreeable exercise, were also recommended. With my injunctions my patient willingly complied, and in a short space of time I had the gratification to find they had produced that complete healthy condition of the system to which she had long been a stranger.

INTESTINAL OBSTRUCTION.—The following case of obstinate constipation of the bowels, which occurred in the practice of Mr. Williams, an able surgeon of Aberystwyth, and successfully treated by him, is at this time very interesting, on account of its great similarity to the disease which terminated the life of the late Queen.

"On the 31st of October, 1820, I was requested to visit Mr. D., about thirty-seven years of age, and resident eleven miles from Aberystwyth.

"I learnt that he had been ill ten days, during which time he had had no stool, and vomited every thing he took. He had had little or no sleep, complained of great thirst, and pain, though not violent, in the right iliac region. His abdomen was tense, and somewhat distended, but not very painful when pressed upon. Pulse 80; small and weak; almost constant hiccup; great anxiety of countenance. He had been bled freely from the arm, and tried salts and castor oil. The bleeding, he said, gave him no relief, and the latter were immediately rejected.

"Finding his stomach in such an irritable state, I administered the following enema.

Take of Epsom Salts, one ounce;
Castor Oil, six drachms;
Infusion of Senna, half a pint.—Mix.

"It was retained, but produced no effect, and was repeated in the course of two hours, with double the quantity of salts, and a pint of the infusion of senna, without any benefit. I gave him a bolus of four grains of calomel, and half a grain of opium, and afterwards an effervescing saline draught, with ten grains of cathartic extract, and four of calomel. As the first dose had been thrown up, I was now obliged to leave him late at night, without having afforded him any relief.

"I returned early the next day, November 1st, and found him much the same as yesterday, having pain in the right and left iliac regions, increased by pressure. Believing the obstinate state of his bowels to arise from spasm, I ordered him to be put in a hot bath for twenty minutes, to have his abdomen fomented with camomile, and anointed with laudanum, camphorated oil, and ammonia. A large blister was applied across the umbilicus, and an injection given, consisting of

Compound Aloëtic Pill, two drachms;
Spirit Sal Volatile, 60 drops;
Tincture of Opium, 50 drops;
Infusion of Senna, 1 pint.—Mix.

"As it procured no evacuation, I proceeded to examine the state of the rectum; and, feeling no obstruction, I passed up a tallow candle about six inches. It had not been up many seconds before the patient made a violent effort to stool, and nearly two pints of fluid offensive ex-

crements, mixed with hardened fæces, were voided with great force. Hoping to distend the bowels, and soften the collected fæces, I injected nearly four pints of warm water, with salts and infusion of chamomile, at different intervals, and again introduced the candle. The glisters were returned, without allaying the hiccup, vomiting, or pain.

"It was evident that there was yet no direct communication between the stomach and the rectum. Stercoraceous matter was vomited, and I met with great difficulty in throwing up the glisters, from a resisting substance in the bowels.

"Nov. 2.—No relief of symptoms: above a quart of fæculent offensive matter vomited in the night. I threw up three glisters of six ounces of infusion of chamomile, and half a drachm of aloes each, and brought away one lump of solid fæces, about the size of an egg. Pulse 80, small and thready, indicating the approach of inflammation, which induced me, notwithstanding his exhausted and debilitated state, to take away about five ounces of blood from his arm in two tea-cups. They were both slightly cupped, buffed, and the crassamentum firm. In an hour his pulse rose to 92, and I drew from the other arm four ounces more by a large orifice. He was rather faint afterwards, and the blood had no mark of inflammation upon it; he was easier than before the bleeding, and felt no pain.

"Nov. 3.—He still remained without any abatement of his urgent symptoms. His complaint evidently possessed the characters of the iliac passion, and must, unless speedily removed, have terminated in death. Having tried all the usual means, and guarded against any tendency to inflammation by bleeding, I determined to have recourse to the use of turpentine. I accordingly beat up an ounce of spirit of turpentine, and the yolks of two eggs, with half a pint of gruel, and succeeded in throwing up four ounces. It occasioned an immediate tenesmus and smarting at the anus, and in less than half an hour my patient had a full and copious motion; the hiccup and vomiting ceased, and he got several hours sleep. Before night he had another evacuation.

"Nov. 4.—He had five natural stools, and was, in every respect, going on well. I particularly cautioned him as to his diet, and enforced upon him the necessity of not taking any solid food.

"April 10.—I pass over the further details of this case, which would not be very interesting to the reader, with observing, that notwithstanding the caution he received, he sustained a severe attack of continued fever, in consequence of imprudence in his diet, and unnecessary exposure to cold, which retarded his recovery for several months, and occasioned the loss of his right eye: however, by paying great attention to his bowels, and the use of saline medicines, cordials, and bitters, exhibited in a state of effervescence, he at length got over his dangerous illness, and is now able to walk out, and take moderate exercise."

Dr. Kinglake, of Taunton, has lately administered, with complete success, the spirit of turpentine (two drachms) with castor oil (half an ounce), in a case of obstinate obstruction of the intestines, which had resisted bleeding, warm bath, active purgatives, and other remedies. He ordered it to be administered with the castor oil in the above proportions, every half hour, till an evacuation was produced. He states

that it seemed to allay irritation of the stomach and intestines. He also speaks in high terms of its beneficial effects in such cases, when administered glisterwise.

HYPOCHONDRIACISM.—The following sensible observations on this disease, from the pen of Mr. Henry Perry, will no doubt be read with much satisfaction by our medical subscribers, and to hypochondriacs, will afford a most instructive lesson.

"If hypochondriacism or vapours be hideous by *name*, how much more so must it be to him who unhappily is under its influence! his mind becomes tormented by what he conceives to be real miseries, while the sceptic would laugh at his notions as phantoms of fancy, and treat the whole as mere idealities. The unfortunate individual, who is thus assailed, feels at every pore, that something unhappily will accrue to him from the merest trifle of impression made; thus, should an insect's sting produce but a slight irritation, his thoughts carry him so far as at once to make him imagine, that he may, probably, by such event, be deprived of that extremity on which it is observed; he becomes similarly disconcerted from an injury, however slight, so that at length, he cautiously guards himself from what *he* considers as effects tending to undermine his happiness. He is apprehensive, should he experience, even what by others would be considered as temporary inconveniences, that he is labouring under a disease of a serious nature; he tells us of symptoms, as if such were really present, and points them out as direct anomalies. To attempt to argue him out of such persuasions, would be only to insult his understanding; or to tell him with frankness our opinion of his malady, would have a similar effect. He would despise us for what he would deem ignorance, and call in for advice others, who would listen with avidity to his recital. His mind, at length, (from such prepossessions) actually kindles a real disease, and we should have to combat such a one as will be difficult to subdue; only one point is left us as a resource; we must strive to gain upon the esteem of our patient, and to establish ourselves in his confidence; we must not betray impatience, whilst he is describing to us his complaints, but attentively listen to every thing he states; we must appear anxiously to inquire if these are the total of his sufferings; and then, with precision, argue upon his case; we must teach him to consider, that we feel confident in successfully treating his disease, if he will but strictly follow the injunctions we intend setting before him, as well as steadily and constantly take the medicines prescribed; we must hold out to him the fairest prospects of eradicating his disease, and exert our ingenuity to the utmost, to make him sensible that, on our part, nothing shall be wanting. We shall now find that the mind of our patient is in our hands, and the fast keeping of this must be our only study; he will consider that he has, at length, met with individuals of research, and persuade himself that under such hands he will be properly treated. The sequel will prove the truth of these principles; we shall have the pleasing satisfaction of witnessing the good effects of diverting his mind from thinking on what is likely to accrue from his maladies; and soon shall we restore to society at large, a man who most probably may prove to be both an useful, as well as an instructive member." The tincture of lupulin, combined with ammonia, by allay-

ing morbid excitement of the brain and nerves, and promoting digestion, has been administered with wonderfully beneficial effect in cases of hypochondriacism of long standing.

The following prescription for hypochondriacism, we received from a correspondent, who has given the composition an extensive trial in a great variety of cases of this disease, with uniform success.

Take of Tincture of Lupulin, two ounces,
Compound Spirit of Ammonia, half an ounce.

Mix.—A small teaspoonful to be taken twice a day, in a wine glass of pure water.

Take of Blue Pill, half a drachm, to be divided into eight pills; one to be taken every other night. He directs the drops to be continued for a fortnight after all the pills are taken.

ERYSIPELAS.—Dr. Little, an American physician of some celebrity, has published some cases of this disease, to illustrate the good effects of the topical application of the strong mercurial ointment in its cure. The following case we select, on account of the mode of employing the remedy being specified in it.

In 1820, I attended a female of sixty-five years of age, of a gross habit of body, labouring under a most extensive erysipelatous inflammation which had fixed in the back. It originated from a small pimple which appeared in the lumbar region, and, from the pain and hardness, was considered for many days as merely the beginning of a common boil. It continued to increase in size, and the hardness and redness to extend, with an intolerable itching and burning sensation; but it was not attended with any general derangement of the system till three days prior to my visit, when I found her, with a low fever, extremely debilitated, and with all the indications of a disturbed stomach. The inflammation had extended from one hip to the other, and above the points of the shoulder blades. It was of a dark red hue, very hard, and extremely painful to the touch, having the cuticle in different places raised, underneath which the aspect was dark and gangrenous. In the treatment, I commenced with a dose of salts, and by covering the inflamed parts with strong mercurial ointment, directing it also to be rubbed in morning and night.

The next day she was evidently better. Continuing nearly the same treatment, alternately purging and using nitrous powders, with the mercurial dressings, for five days longer, she was considered convalescent. But the part originally affected sloughed to the extent of three inches, leaving a large cavity over the spine, which gradually filled up. It is, however, worthy of remark, that in consequence of improperly indulging in stimulating food, the edges of the wound became hard and erysipelatous, which affection was removed by the reapplication of mercurial in place of the basilicon ointment. In England this mode of treating erysipelas is by no means new.

THE HAIR.—The hair is composed of a peculiar spongy cellular texture, containing a colouring matter, with a covering, the texture of which is similar to that of the cuticle. It is evidently hollow, supplied with vessels, knotted at certain distances, similar to some species of grass, and sends out branches at the points. The branches at the ends are visible with a microscope. It arises from a bulbous root, seated in

the true skin, and its nourishment and growth are probably similar to that of vegetables. It has been supposed that as long as the skin continues moist, the hair will grow after death; but this is a popular superstition, without foundation. In cases of suspended animation, although the circulation be evidently stagnant, the beard has grown.

By the appearance of the beard, we may therefore, in some degree, ascertain if, in a body apparently dead, the vital powers are only suspended, or have entirely ceased.

The hair is divided into two kinds; the *long*, which occupies the scalp, chin, arm-pits, &c. and the *short*, which is present all over the body, except the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. The long hair is apt to fall off in consequence of a want of nourishment from debility, as in the advanced stage of pulmonary consumption, and in languid constitutions, where the heart does not propel with sufficient force the blood through the smallest vessels of the skin. The vitality of the long hair has also been destroyed by too rapid a circulation with an increased temperature, as evinced by its falling off after fever. The use of the hair is not known. Some have supposed that it is ornamental only, and others that it conveys superabundant electrical matter from the body; for on insulating the body, the ends rise to conduct it to the air, or to a substance near it.

In the savage man, of a cold climate, the *short* hair is often very thick, and much longer than in Europeans; no doubt, to answer the purpose of the fine hair of brutes, as the sheep, &c. to prevent the escape of the matter of heat, generated in the body, to the atmosphere.

When the hair is long and thick, the temperature of the part runs higher than any other of the body. Hence, in cases of head-ache, from plethora, a full crop of hair, on the scalp, is injurious; on the contrary, when the circulation is languid, and when the patient is subject to chronic rheumatism in the head, and, indeed, in the extremities, it is of importance to keep up a proper degree of temperature in the scalp, either by promoting the growth of the hair, or by a wig. The latter often proves, in this respect, more beneficial than the former, and at the same time, admitting of the scalp being washed occasionally with cold water, is preferable.

When the hair falls off, producing baldness, the roots are removed with the trunks. In such case we are to bring forward the short hair of the scalp. This may be done, in most cases, by shaving the part about once a week, and rubbing it gently every morning and night with a stimulating oil. In this country a variety of oils and essences is daily advertised as infallible remedies for baldness, and for rendering the hair healthy; but few, if any, are entitled to attention. In a former Number, we have recommended Mr. Prince's remedy, in consequence of its being composed of animal fat and vegetable oil; and of all the nostrums, we believe it to be the only one worth a trial. A correspondent, at the Cape of Good Hope, and an intelligent gentleman, who lately returned from that colony, inform us that the natives have, from time immemorial, employed an unguent composed of animal fat and buchu leaves, finely powdered, for the purpose of promoting the growth of the hair, and that they have often witnessed the good effects of it. To this composition, observes one gentleman, the English would probably object, on account

of its roughness and dark brown colour. An expressed oil, impregnated with the essential oil of the buchu leaves, containing the peculiar stimulating virtues of the leaf, would answer the same purpose, and is, at the same time, a pleasant and neat application. If the part be covered with short hair, this composition, with occasional shaving, will bring it forward; but, in case the skin be free from it, as well as the long hair, we can hardly expect that any application will produce roots.

For the purpose of destroying the vitality of superfluous hair, there are also many infallible remedies advertised. In a former Number we have recommended the caustic alcali, which we find to be the basis of all the nostrums we have examined. The one, which we have found to succeed best in destroying hair, is made by a Mr. Colley, and is composed of the sulphuret of potass and pure (*unslacked*) lime. If the hair be first washed or soaked in warm water, (130 Fahr.) for ten minutes, this article, formed into a thin paste, with *warm* water, and applied whilst warm, will so effectually destroy the hair, in five or six minutes, that it may be removed by washing the skin with flannel. It is a powerful caustic, and should therefore be removed as soon as it begins to inflame the skin, by washing it off with vinegar. In the cases in which we have tried this article, it certainly rendered the skin softer, and improved its appearance. This application, like other depilatories, destroys only the trunks of the hair. The roots being left, the hairs will, of course, grow. The assertion, that they *eradicate* the hair, is therefore false. The roots of the hair are not to be destroyed without injuring the skin, or, indeed, without destroying the cuticle, rete mucosum, and a superficial portion of the true skin, which would leave a mark more unpleasant than superfluous hair, and in an unhealthy constitution, might be productive of serious mischief. After the application of Colley's composition, the hair did not appear for one month, and then not to be visible, only on close inspection. The hair of the same part, advanced as much in one day, after shaving, as it did in one month after being removed by the depilatory.

In some of the depilatories, we have detected arsenic. The proportion of the sulphuret of potass to the pure lime, in Colley's composition, is about one to twelve. The lime should be pure, and the composition kept closely corked.

The only means of removing superfluous hair effectually, is to eradicate it by means of small forceps made for the purpose. Only five or six should be removed in the course of twenty-four hours, and those not close together. The part should be afterwards washed with spirit of wine.

INFLAMMATION.—A few months ago, an intelligent correspondent informed us, that he had found finely pulverized charcoal, sprinkled over the surface of a recent incised or lacerated wound, to prevent inflammation and pain, and when they had taken place, effectually to allay them. We have since employed this article in a variety of cases of wounds, scalds, and irritable ulcers, by sprinkling it over the surface, or by means of a poultice, with the same advantage. Its effects in subduing inflammation and assuaging pain, in cases of blisters from cantharides, scalds, or burns, are almost immediate, and in cancerous and irritable ulcers it not only allays pain and destroys fetor, but produces

a more healthy discharge. In a case of extensive scald of the leg, it succeeded in allaying irritation and pain, and in healing the wound, after the saturnine cerate lotion, solution of opium, &c. evidently increased the sufferings of the patient.

GOUT.—A noble Earl informs us, that he has derived more benefit from a liniment of olive oil and the sulphuric acid, in a case of gouty inflammation of the feet, than from any other application, and that the gouty subjects to whom he has recommended it, speak in the highest terms of its efficacy.

His Lordship states, that he is satisfied, from its immediate effect in dispersing gouty inflammation, and in restoring parts to health which had suffered from gout, that it acts "specifically or chemically on the *matter* of gout, or in counteracting gouty action." To quiet the constitution, or to render the disease local, he also took the alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds.

ABSCESS OF THE FEMALE BREAST.—Females are subject to abscesses of the breasts during the whole period of suckling; but they are more especially liable to inflammation, and formation of matter, soon after, which always prove very obstinate, and exceedingly distressing to the patient. The following judicious practical remarks on this disease were lately communicated to the faculty by Mr. Burn, an experienced surgeon, of Edinburgh.—"On the second or third day after delivery, when a copious secretion of milk has begun, the attack commences, and is marked by fulness, general tension, with more or less hardness, and an uneasy sense of weight in one or other of the breasts: these symptoms are shortly succeeded by tumour, heat, redness, pain in some part, very commonly the upper and outer, of the breast affected, together with symptomatic fever. Slight shiverings now quickly supervene, and the suppurative process is established. The abscess, if not interrupted by the officious surgeon, bursts spontaneously, usually between the ninth and fourteenth days; the matter then escapes, and all the symptoms, local and constitutional, are alleviated.

"The treatment of milk-abscess is very simple; the less indeed is done the better. Emollient fomentations with scalded plant-leaves, suffice for the inflammatory stage, and oatmeal or linseed poultice for the suppurative. The same kind of poultice should also be continued after the bursting of the abscess, and until it be perfectly healed, be the length of time what it may. Ointments and such like dressings do not sufficiently encourage discharge; whence it happens that where they are employed, inflammation and suppuration again take place; whereas, if the poultice be uninterruptedly continued, all goes on well. During the inflammatory stage many recommend the local abstraction of blood by leeches, and the use of discutient lotions; the former treatment I have ever seen superfluous, and the latter injurious; the abstraction of blood protracting the inflammatory, and not preventing the suppurative stage, and driving the disease from a situation not dangerous to one perhaps highly so. Nothing, indeed, can be more likely to superinduce mania, or any other of the frightful diseases which are apt to afflict childbed women. For this reason the employment of repellents cannot be too severely reprobated and condemned.

"The indisposition of milk abscesses to heal, may possibly be owing

to the great determination of blood to the breasts during the first months of suckling, and, indeed, it is not unreasonable to suppose that nature keeps this as it were natural issue open to counterbalance the dangerous plethora that might otherwise happen from the suppressed secretion of milk.

"Such is the course and such the treatment of milk abscess; but the point of the greatest moment, and to which I am anxious to draw the attention of the profession, is the prevention both of abscess and inflammation.

"The frequency of the milk abscess in the human species, and the rareness of it among brutes, cannot fail to strike the observant mind. The newly-yeaned lamb empties without difficulty the loaded dug of its parent; and the fresh-dropped colt, the distended udder of its dam; but the newly-born infant, although healthy, often strives in vain to draw milk from the gorged bosom of its mother. The attentive nurse applies it again and again, but without avail, the milk accumulates more and more, and inflammation and abscess succeed.

"The cause of failure is not with the infant, for it sucks well; the impediment, therefore, must exist on the part of the mother; and examination of the breast immediately discovers this to be the case, for the nipple is invariably found to be so flat and imperfectly formed as not to afford hold for the child.

"There is no reason in nature why the nipple in the human species should be so often incompletely developed, while the teats of animals are, without exception, as far as I know, prominent and perfect. The only cause to which the defect can be attributed, is the continued pressure, from the peculiarity of the female dress, (and of one part of it particularly, the stays), to which the bosom is subjected from childhood, and it is this pressure without doubt which prevents the full development of the nipple.

"If a proper nipple can therefore be formed, so as to admit of the milk being abstracted by the infant or nurse, inflammation and the consequent formation of matter would not occur.

"The formation of a good nipple is by no means difficult; so far, indeed, from this being the case, I believe that it is always practicable; and the means by which it can be accomplished is by the *nipple pump*.

"In a few hours after delivery, it is incumbent on the accoucheur to examine the patient's breasts, to ascertain whether or not the nipples are sufficiently prominent; and if one or both prove otherwise, he should immediately set about to remedy the defect; for by the early and repeated use of the pump, the nipple may be well drawn out before the secretion of the milk takes place.

"The pump should be applied over the flat nipple, and the degree of exhaustion of the air from the glass should be regulated by the feelings of the patient: the nipple will protrude into the mouth of the glass, and may be kept there two or three minutes; the pump is then to be taken off, and in the space of two minutes more to be applied again; and in this manner five or six times successively; and on its being finally removed, suction should instantly be performed by the nurse for several minutes, for unless it be done instantly, the nipple will recede. The application of the pump must be repeated every three or four hours, as

long as it may be required; taking care always that the nurse or infant suck the breast immediately on the removal of it. In this way the accoucheur will never fail to procure good nipples, and by so doing, to preserve his patient from all the inconveniences and sufferings attendant on milk abscess.

"It is true, that all this gives the practitioner a great deal of trouble; but surely, he is amply recompensed by securing the good wishes and interest of his patient.

"Experience," says Mr. Burn, "allows me to affirm that the above described method will prove successful, provided it is practised with attention and perseverance; for I have myself succeeded where both nipples did not only not project, but were considerably depressed.

"The pump is rarely had recourse to with any other view than to abstract milk from the breast; but to this end it is quite inadequate, which may be the cause why it is not in more general use. In using the pump it is advantageous to anoint the fore part of the breast with oil, for this very much facilitates the entrance of the nipple into the mouth of the glass, and preserves the skin from abrasion."

For the purpose of elongating the nipple, we have found the prepared nipples of calves attached to an ivory or silver shield, to answer better than an air pump. By means of it the nipple is not only drawn out by the suction of the infant, but the breast is sufficiently unloaded, and the milk, instead of being thrown away, is swallowed by the infant. A very common cause of inflammation of the breast, after the first labour, is the practice of nurses of drawing the breasts with considerable force, to break, as they say, the milk-strings. The injury done to the breasts, in this attempt, is often followed by considerable inflammation. The flattened state of a nipple, those officious attendants fancy to be occasioned by contraction of ligaments, which do not exist, and with the idea of breaking them, considerable injury is done to the ducts that convey the milk from the mammary gland. The management of the milk is generally left to nurses, who pretend to be better acquainted with it than the medical attendant, and in their advice patients generally place the most implicit confidence. Many thousand lives (of parents and infants) have been destroyed by the officious interference of nurses.

THE CROTON TIGLIUM.—The oil of the seeds of this plant is the most powerful cathartic medicine with which the profession is acquainted, one drop generally acting violently on the bowels; and it is stated by one writer, that violent purging has followed the external application of it around the navel. It was administered in the dose of one drop to her late Majesty, during her last illness, and in consequence of a very trifling facial evacuation, her medical attendants were encouraged to prognosticate favourably of the result of a repetition of the article. It did not disorder the stomach, nor excite spasms of the intestines. The purgative property of this oil is not a new discovery. Rumphius has given a description of the plant, and noticed the virtues of the oil in his Herb. Amboin. tom. IV. Dr. Fleming, a scientific physician of great experience (late of Bengal), some years ago published in the Asiatic Researches, an account of the plant, by which it appears that the seeds had been known in Europe under the names of *Grana*

Tiglia, and *Grana Molucca*, that they were employed as a purgative in cases of glandular obstructions, that one seed is a dose, that they fell in disrepute in Europe, in consequence of the violence of their operation, and that they are seldom used by the Hindoo practitioners, but not unfrequently taken by the poorer classes of the natives.

SCROFULA, &c.—Sir A. Halliday, domestic physician to His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, has published a few practical observations on the iodine, in which he speaks highly of its beneficial effects in cases of scrofula and wen. "I have," says he, "ordered the tincture of iodine with success in three cases of scrofulous tumours, and have heard of its being prescribed by a friend in two remarkable cases at Edinburgh." An ointment of the Hydriodate*, rubbed in like the mercurial ointment, he has also found to operate very beneficially. "In local and indolent tumours," observes Sir A. "I would always prefer the ointment; but in the treatment of the constitutional disease, or where scrofulous sores exist, the remedy must be given internally." He advises the size of a filbert of the ointment to be rubbed into the skin covering the tumour, morning and evening. After eight days the effects of the remedy are generally evident. Sir A. expresses a "hope that his remarks will induce professional men to make trial of a remedy, which promises to be as powerful in eradicating scrofula as ever mercury was in curing syphilis."

We have given the tincture of iodine a very extensive trial, in cases of wen and in scrofula, in all its forms, and in no one instance has it failed to prove beneficial. In many cases of scrofula it has completely succeeded in restoring the patients to health, some of whom had been suffering from enlarged glands and ulcerations many years. These cases, with others, now under our care, we intend to publish in an early number.

INCONTINENCE OF URINE.—A gentleman of great respectability informs us, that his lady had taken the saturated tincture of the buchu leaves, as directed in the Addition to our Appendix, with complete success, for incontinence of urine, with which she had been afflicted twenty years. She took two tea-spoonsful, twice a-day, in a wine glass of the infusion of the leaves. It improved her general health, and proved very beneficial in allaying the irritability of her nervous system.

GERMAN SAUSAGES.—Dr. Cournet, a physician of Germany, informs us, that he has met with several instances of persons being poisoned by the article sold in this country under the name of German sausage. He has chemically examined the parts of the sausages which the unfortunate subjects had left, but he had not been able to detect arsenic, the prussic acid, or any other poison. He suspects, by the process of smoking, that a poison is produced. The deleterious property of coffee he attributes to a peculiar poison produced by burning the berries in a close vessel.

---

* This ointment is made of the crystals of hydriodate, evaporated to dryness (taking care that the alcali is well saturated), and hog's lard, in the proportion of half a drachm of the former to an ounce of the latter.

THE CHIRO-PHARMACEUTICAL LICENCE.—Mr. Charles Mingay Syder, a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, late Pupil of the *great* Sir Astley Cooper, Bart. &c. &c. &c., has published "a Series of Questions and Answers, with Tables of Materia Medica, Arrangement of Diseases, Doses of the Simples and Compounds of the London Pharmacopœia, &c. &c. for the Use of Medical Students, who are qualifying themselves to appear before the Court of Examiners at Apothecaries' Hall." The questions and answers are divided into three chapters, viz. 1st, *Materia Medica, Chemistry, &c.* 2d, *The Practice of Physic, &c.* 3d, *Anatomy, Physiology, &c.* Of these departments of the work, the following extracts are fair specimens.

Chemistry, &c.—"Q. How is the subcarbonate of iron prepared?—A. Subcarbonate of soda and sulphate of iron are dissolved separately in water, the liquors are then mixed together, and set aside. The subcarbonate of iron, which precipitates, is washed with hot water, and dried with a gentle heat in blotting paper.

"Q. Explain the theory of this process.—A. A double decomposition is effected, the sulphuric acid combines with the soda, forming a solution of sulphate of soda, and the carbonic acid unites with the iron, forming an insoluble subcarbonate of iron, which precipitates.

"Q. In making the liquor of alkaline iron, nitric acid, iron, water, and liquor of subcarbonate of potass, are used; what takes place?—A. The diluted nitric acid oxidizes and dissolves the iron; the liquor of the subcarbonate of potass being added to the nitrate of iron, the carbonic acid escapes, and the potass combines with the nitrate, forming in solution the alkaline iron.

"Q. Is potass considered a mineral or vegetable alkali?—A. A vegetable alkali.

"Q. What is soda?—A. A mineral alkali.

"Q. What is alum?—A. A composition of sulphuric acid, alumine, and a little potass.

"Q. Name the earths directed to be kept for use.—A. Lime, magnesia, and argil.

"Q. What are the peculiar properties of argil or alumine?—A. When exposed to heat it contracts, and becomes extremely hard.

"Q. If pure magnesia be exposed to the action of the atmospheric air, what takes place?—A. The magnesia attracts carbonic acid from the air; it should therefore be preserved in glass stopper bottles.

"Q. Enumerate the metals used for medicinal purposes.—A. Mercury, iron, silver, copper, lead, zinc, arsenic, tin, antimony, &c.

"Q. What is the composition of calamine?—A. It is considered an impure oxide of zinc.

"Q. What are the virtues of the nitrate of silver?—A. Externally it is used as a caustic, and is exhibited internally in epilepsy and convulsive diseases; dose from one-eighth of a grain to one grain; it should be given cautiously.

"Q. What is understood by expectorants?—A. Medicines which promote the secretion from the lungs.

"Q. What are antiseptics?—A. Medicines which arrest the progress of putrefaction.

"Q. How is the nitric acid known from the nitrous acid?—A. The nitric acid is colourless, and the nitrous acid is of an orange hue, owing to a quantity of nitric oxide which it holds in solution, and which is the cause of this acid's fuming.

"Q. How is the sulphuret of potass prepared?—A. Washed sulphur and subcarbonate of potass are rubbed together, and put into a crucible over the fire until union is effected.

"Q. What takes place in this process?—A. The carbonic acid of the subcarbonate is expelled.

"Q. What is understood by solution?—A. When a solid body becomes chemically combined with a fluid, we say it is held in solution."

Practice of Physic.—"Q. What are the symptoms of phrenitis (inflammation of the brain)?—A. Horror, great anxiety, disturbed dreams, impaired memory, violent pain in the head, ferocious delirium, flushed countenance, hard, small, quick pulse, wild expression of the eyes and countenance, a succession of burning heat and profuse perspiration, increased secretion of tears, &c. &c.

"Q. How is phrenitis distinguished from the delirium of inflammatory fever?—A. By its being the *primary* affection in phrenitis, and by the *hard, rapid,* and *contracted* pulse.

"Q. How is the delirium of phrenitis distinguished from that of typhus?—A. By its sudden accession and violence, and by its not being preceded by the symptoms of typhus.

"Q. What are the *characteristic* symptoms of typhus?—A. Contagious pyrexia; weak, contracted, quick pulse; great debility; heat not being much increased; the animal functions being greatly disturbed, and the urine being but little changed, &c. &c.

"Q. How would you treat phrenitis?—A. I would use the lancet freely, producing a sudden and copious evacuation of blood, according to the age and constitution of the patient, purging the bowels with neutral salts, or submuriate of mercury; keeping up a constant counter-irritation; using cold applications to the head, previously shaved, with blisters to the head, neck, and legs; warm water to the feet, &c. &c.

"Q. In inflammation of the lungs, what treatment would you adopt?—A. A free, general, and local blood-letting; exhibiting aperients, diaphoretics, and expectorants; using blisters, &c. &c. according to circumstances.

"Q. What are the favourable symptoms in inflammation of the lungs?—A. A timely, free, mucal expectoration; a general and warm diaphoresis; hæmorrhage from the nose; diarrhœa, &c. &c.

"Q. Please to name what you consider unfavourable symptoms.—A. The disease continuing beyond the twelfth or fourteenth day; impeded expectoration; or, if there be any, marked with blood and of a dark colour; weak, irregular pulse, a sudden ceasing of the pain, &c. &c.

"Q. How is inflammation of the lungs known from inflammation of the pleura?—A. By the pain in inflammation of the lungs being more obtuse; the pulse not being so much contracted; the sense of oppression is greater; there is a greater difficulty of breathing, and the pain is felt more under the sternum, &c. &c.

"Q. How is the inflammation of the lungs distinguished from inflam-

mation of the liver?—A. Pressure in inflammation of the lungs does not increase the pain, but does in inflammation of the liver; in inflammation of the lungs the pain is much increased by the patient's lying on the diseased side; but in inflammation of the liver, the patient cannot lie on the opposite side without the greatest inconvenience."

Anatomy, &c.—" Q. What are the contents of the thorax?—A. The pleura; lungs; thymus gland; the heart and great vessels; the pericardium; and the œsophagus.

" Q. What is the use of the pleura?—A. To line the cavity of the thorax, to cover the lungs, and divide the thorax into two cavities.

" Q. What is the mediastinum?—A. It is a duplicature of the pleura, which divides the cavity of the thorax.

" Q. How many cavities has this duplicature?—A. Three: An anterior, middle, and posterior cavity.

" Q. What is contained in the anterior cavity of the mediastinum?—A. The thymus gland in the fœtus.

" Q. What is found in the middle cavity?—A. The heart and pericardium.

" Q. What does the posterior cavity contain?—A. The bronchiæ; œsophagus; descending aorta; part of the intercostal arteries; the descending cava; vena azygos; thoracic duct; par vagum, and the great sympathetic nerve.

" Q. Whence does the pleura derive its arteries?—A. From the intercostals and bronchial.

" Q. What is the use of the thymus gland?—A. Its use is at present unknown.

" Q. What is the pericardium?—A. A membranous bag which surrounds the heart.

" Q. How is the heart divided?—A. Into a *basis* turned backwards and upwards; an *apex* pointing forward and to the left; an *acute edge* to the left; a *rounded edge* to the right; a *convex* surface superiorly; and *flat* surface inferiorly; and it has four cavities, two auricles, and two ventricles.

" Q. Is there any communication between each auricle or the ventricles?—A. No; but the right auricle and ventricle open into each other, as also the left auricle and ventricle. In the fœtus, however, the auricles communicate by an opening called the foramen ovale.

" Q. How is the right auricle of the heart divided from the left?—A. By the septum auricularum."

The collection of questions is, on the whole, judicious, for the purpose of ascertaining the professional acquirements of a candidate for a licence; but some of the answers are, we suspect, not so correct as to give satisfaction to an examiner. For instance, to the question as to the *origin* or commencement of the *intestinal canal*, the answer is, that " it arises *by the duodenum at the pylorus.*" Now, intestinal canal and intestines are not synonimous, the former comprehending the œsophagus, stomach, and intestines, and the latter the portion commencing at the pylorus, and terminating in the rectum.

In the answer to the question, what are the viscera of the chest, are included the pleura, the blood-vessels, the pericardium, and the œsophagus, which are not viscera.

In the enumeration of the tunics of the eye, the iris is noticed, which by Anatomists, is not considered a tunic.

The chemistry of the work is modern and correct. The replies to pharmacological questions are much too profuse, and not calculated to induce an examiner to form a very favourable opinion of the *scientific* attainments of a candidate; for instance, in the answer to the question, what are the virtues of the oxide of zinc, it is stated to be tonic, astringent, *and* antispasmodic. Such a reply would, probably, induce the examiner to put some very puzzling questions, as to those powers. He might ask if the tonic, astringent, and antispasmodic operations were not the effects of a peculiar stimulus? The profuse use of technicalities is a species of pedantry which men of real science consider a certain indication of superficial knowledge.

To the question what is an *alterative*, we find the following simple reply: "Medicines which establish a *healthy* state of the constitution, without producing any *sensible* evacuations." Now, probably the most efficient alteratives are those which operate on the bowels.

The employment of neutral salts or calomel as a purgative in inflammation of the brain, would not prove satisfactory to every examiner. Calomel, as a purge, we conceive no man of experience and observation would administer in case of acute inflammation of the brain. Many may approve of a saline purgative, as the Epsom or Glauber salt; but the propriety of this practice is questionable.

We are told that an examiner condemned in strong terms the exhibition of an aloetic purge in inflammation of the brain, because *he* considered it a stimulant, and recommended saline purgatives, because they are cooling, and consequently antiphlogistic. Now, a cathartic containing aloes, as the cathartic extract, not only more effectually unloads the intestines than the saline purgatives, but, by producing a determination to the rectum, uniformly proves more beneficial, even in inflammatory affections of the brain. Indeed, it is worthy of notice that, in cases of head-ache, arising from over-distention of the vessels of the head, viz. the *plethoric* head-ache, a saline purgative, often increases the complaint, notwithstanding its copious operation on the bowels. Plethoric subjects, who have visited Cheltenham, for the purpose of taking the saline aperient waters, are well satisfied of this fact. Indeed, we have known apoplexy immediately to follow a draught of the strong saline water of Cheltenham. In many affections of the head an aloetic medicine is a derivative purgative, whereas a saline aperient often increases the determination to the head, by rendering that of the intestines more languid, by diminishing the nervous energy of the bowels. The remark that bleeding is improper in typhus fever, because it lowers the powers of the system, which have already been reduced by the disease, betrays an ignorance of the nature of the malady, and of the valuable works on it, lately published by Drs. Bateman, Armstrong, and others.

The Court of Examiners at Apothecaries' Hall being composed of men well acquainted with all the departments of medicine, and of extensive practice, a candidate must not expect to find in a work of this kind, all the questions that may be put to him. The answer to a very simple question, often gives rise to a variety of intricate interrogations. The translation of prescriptions constituting the principal part of the examina-

tion, Mr. Syder should have added a collection of prescriptions in Latin, with translations.

The additions to the questions and answers, are, Cullen's Arrangement of Diseases; the Materia Medica of the London College, with the doses, virtues, &c. affixed to each article; Preparations and Compounds of the London Pharmacopœia, with their doses, properties, &c. and a Table explanatory of the meaning of technical terms, and expressive of the properties or effects of Medicines. The whole being comprised in 128 duodecimo pages, the work is a *multum in parvo*, and, if all the answers were correct, and the second chapter (the Practice of Physic) more modern, it would be a very useful book of reference, not only for "Medical Students preparing for examination at Apothecaries' Hall," but for refreshing the memory of old Practitioners. In our next Number we intend to notice the Lectures of Sir Astley Cooper, Bart. &c. &c. &c. which Mr. Syder has lately published.

LOCKED JAW.—Mr. Wayte, an experienced surgeon of Calne, has published a case of this disease, from a burn, which terminated favourably, after amputation of the injured part. The subject was a male, only eight years of age. Mr. Wayte did not see the patient till a week after the accident, when he found the second and third phalanges of all the fingers, as well as the second bone of the thumb, burnt to blackness, and nearly thrown off, with an extent of sloughing which threatened to deprive a part of the hand, on each side, of its integuments. Observing the boy's countenance to be very pale, and to indicate distress, the eyebrows corrugated, the features shrunk, and finding the pulse to be accelerated, he requested him to shew him his tongue, when he discovered that he was unable to separate the jaws sufficiently to put out his tongue. He had also rigours, and a slight spasmodic catching of the body. On the following morning, a striking correspondence was observable between the constitutional symptoms and local appearances. The granulations wore an unhealthy aspect, being soft, glossy, and somewhat livid, yielding a sanious discharge, and an offensive fetor. The tumefaction was increased, and the sensibility exquisite; the stiffness of the jaw and spasmodic twitches had become complete locked jaw. "Not a thing could be inserted between the teeth, and I could raise him from the horizontal to the erect posture, without the slightest flexibility. He was perfectly sensible; but on removing the dressings, although done with the nicest caution, he was liable to be thrown into the most violent universal spasm, attended with profuse perspiration, and a discharge of viscid saliva from the mouth. On these occasions his occiput and heels were the only points in contact with the bed, whilst his elevated abdomen, notwithstanding the contracted state of its muscles, described a considerable arch. At the commencement of each paroxysm he invariably expressed acute pain of belly, which I attributed to the distention of the recti abdominis in a state of spasm, by the overpowering action of the extensors of the back.

"With these symptoms, it required little penetration to perceive that death must soon ensue, unless the chief exciting cause, that is the injured part, was speedily removed; and even from this plan, in so severe and established a case of locked jaw, little success was to be expected, according to the prevailing opinion.

"This course, however, I determined to pursue; and accordingly, on the 30th of the same month, at the interval of twelve days from the accident, and two from the approach of symptoms of locked jaw, I amputated his arm at the wrist. From that moment the process of recovery may be dated; for although no instantaneous good effect was evident, or looked for, yet the symptoms soon began to diminish in severity, and the efforts of nature being relieved from an overwhelming obstacle, proceeded without interruption, until the cure was accomplished. It is remarkable, however, that in the early periods after amputation, he was thrown into spasmodic paroxysms at each dressing, and would be frequently awoke by them during the night, at which times the spasms were observed to be more quickly relaxed, when, by firmly clasping his mother's neck with the sound arm, he endeavoured to bend himself forward. These paroxysms continued upon him some time longer, at more distant intervals, and with diminished severity; but on the 30th May, the stump was completely healed, and by the 5th June he was enabled to pursue his usual amusements with his play-mates. I afterwards learnt that his appetite was good, that all muscular action was perfect, and he never experienced any return of spasm.

"*Observations.*—Locked jaw, in all its forms, is a disease both to patients and their medical attendants; the former being usually conscious of its nature and tendency, and the latter too well aware of the inefficacy of human means for its relief. I trust a few observations upon the subject in general, and more especially upon the case above related, will not be deemed altogether superfluous. The ordinary distinctions into idiopathic and traumatic tetanus, although not suggested by any obvious difference in symptoms, seems a very proper one; and it will probably hereafter be found that the scientific treatment of the former rests on analogies drawn from the latter."

COW-POX.—Sirs, The cow-pox having of late frequently failed in affording security against the action of that loathsome disease, the small pox, to individuals who had been vaccinated, of which, recently, three or four instances have taken place under my own observation, one of which had been so vigilantly watched, that I am induced to forward you the particulars for insertion in your valuable Gazette of Health.

The following is nearly a copy of a letter on this subject, which was written by a Mr. P. to Dr. Walker of Salisbury Square.

"Sir,—Having at the present moment, in my own family, an instance of the confirmed *small-pox*, after vaccination from virus, which, about fifteen years since, was obtained, I believe, from yourself, by Mr. J., who, at that time, performed the operation on my son, T. E. P., his age being then about twelve months. The appearance of the infection passed regularly through the various stages to the entire satisfaction of the medical attendant, who entertained no doubt of the child's being sufficiently protected from future attacks of the small-pox; and if I am not mistaken, a quantity of virus was abstracted from his arm, for the purpose of vaccinating other children. My son has not experienced a single day of serious indisposition from the hour he was vaccinated to the present moment; he has been wholly free from pimples, pustules, blotches, breakings out, and humours of every description, with the exception of the measles, which he had favourably. So fully satisfied

have I ever been, both from the favourable reports which I have read, from the success and decided preference expressed to me by Mr. J. the surgeon, Mr. D. and Mr. C., surgeons, and other medical persons of liberal sentiments and extended practice, that I have had, at various times, the whole of my children, eight in number, vaccinated with uniform success and decided advantage, as not one of them has ever experienced eruptions, or illness of any description (except one daughter, who died at the age of ten years of a pulmonary consumption); that I have invariably exerted my endeavours to promote the more general practice of vaccination; and having conducted a large boarding-school, have frequently prevailed on persons who had been previously averse to the cow-pox, to allow their children to submit to vaccination.

"Should you, Sir, feel the least inclination to examine my son's case, I shall be happy to see you, and to answer any interrogatories you may deem requisite to propose.

"It may be requisite to notice, that the small-pox made its first appearance on Friday morning, the 8th instant; that Mr. B. is the medical attendant, and that the lymph for my children has always been procured from yourself; and further, that with the virus taken from the arm of one of my sons, upwards of sixty persons were vaccinated, by Mr. S., Surgeon, with I believe uniform success.

"I am, Sir,

"Your obedient Servant,

"Kent Road, 9th June, 1821. S. P."

In consequence of this letter, on Thursday, the 14th instant, Mr. E., a medical gentleman, sent by Mr. W., called, who with a magnifying glass, carefully examined the pustules on my son, and then stated that it was not the *real small-pox*, but a species of it; it was evident that the malignity of the small-pox was considerably checked, and that he had it very slightly. Mr. E. acknowledged that some instances had taken place of the small-pox after vaccination, but the disease was considerably milder, of which this was a striking proof.

Mr. E. was informed that, lately, my last son had been four times vaccinated without effect: "Why," said Mr. P., "do you not have him inoculated from this boy?" "Because," said Mrs. P. "we are willing not to be remiss in our endeavours to extirpate it." "So it would be," rejoined Mr. E., "if every person were to follow your example."

On the Wednesday following, Mr. B., our medical attendant, took from my son a portion of matter, for the purpose of inoculating some person, which circumstance Mr. E. was made acquainted with; he expressed a desire of being informed of the progress, and left his card for that purpose.

At Mr. B.'s next visit, which was on the eighth day, another portion of virus was taken from my son, which I have preserved, for the purpose of ascertaining if it be the *genuine small-pox* or not, as Mr. B. affirmed it to be as *genuine a small-pox* as he had ever seen.

The virus which I have is a considerable quantity; it shall be given to any gentleman requesting the same, for the purpose of ascertaining the fact of its genuineness, by applying through the medium of the Gazette of Health.

Thus, Sir, I have given you a succinct account of this interesting

case, and trust it will meet with that attention which it deserves, from some of your medical correspondents. CHEMICUS.

Mr. Shipman, in his Familiar Treatise on Disorders of the Stomach, Bowels, Bilious and Nervous Affections*, a work possessing much merit, has introduced the following article on cow-pox:

"As the *cow-pock* is a subject materially connected with health, I will make a few observations on it. The *Jennerian* discovery has not obtained that universal support which, in my opinion, it merits; and since we find that medical men, ranking high in their profession, are opposed to it, we must reasonably conclude that numerous families will be influenced in the same way; but the proportion of these are comparatively small: the lower orders of society are more averse to its adoption than the middle or higher ranks of life, and their prejudices often arise from the supposed and ridiculous idea, that as the small-pox is a disease exclusively confined to man, and occurring *naturally*, it was originally intended to throw out certain humours, by which the body becomes purified. The same principle that actuates medical men to discover means for the prevention of other contagious diseases, has also directed them in respect to small-pox; and that cow-pock is a preventive, when properly conducted, is a circumstance as well attested as any in physiology; occurrences of small-pox after vaccination I admit, but the cause may be accounted for in various ways.

"*First*, the matter for inoculation may have passed the period at which its activity is at its height, and although a pustule may arise from it, yet it is not the *intended cow-pock* pustule, and will not affect the constitution in the same way that is experienced from the cow-pock in its proper state.

"*Secondly*, a pustule may arise from vaccination, but imperfectly; producing neither a sufficient degree of local action, nor constitutional effect; and the timidity that some parents experience, in having matter taken from the pustule, deters them from taking the child to the person who applied the vaccine matter; consequently, an opportunity is not offered to that person to ascertain, and remedy the defect: this circumstance frequently occurs at the public vaccine establishments; after a pustule has risen, the parent conceives that nothing more is required, and frequently objects to take the child for the purpose of having the case inspected, when probably its process has imperfectly gone on; in such a case, to whom or what are we to ascribe the consequences? to the surgeon, the matter, or the parent? certainly the latter: had it been inspected, the imperfect constitutional effect would have been remedied, by a recommendation to have the child again vaccinated at probably a few weeks hence.

"*Thirdly*, I believe that when only one arm is vaccinated, and by accident or otherwise the head of the pustule is taken off previous to the arrival at its height, and the matter consequently *imbibed* by the linen, the general or constitutional effect is rendered imperfect, and this often occurs without the knowledge of the medical man; no doubt

---

* Of this publication we intend to give an analysis in our next Number.

whatever exists in my mind that the cow-pock is an infallible remedy for the prevention of *small-pox*, but I recommend *both arms* to be vaccinated, and matter taken from only *one*, care being taken the other pustule is not broken. Unless some degree of fever, preceded by shivering, is noticed, the effect is insufficient for the object intended.

"The introduction of these remarks may seem irrelevant, nor, indeed, can any connexion be traced between them and the proposed object of this Essay: I am induced, however, to offer them to the public from a firm conviction of their necessity and importance, and from an earnest desire to forward, as much as in me lies, a discovery which has conferred so much honor on the profession to which I belong, and so much benefit on mankind at large."

APOPLEXY.—M. Deloudre, of Paris, has published the following case, which he and M. Brischet pronounced to be a case of apoplexy.

"In the early part of May last, a day of extreme heat, I was walking in the afternoon towards St. Germain, when I observed, in the great court of the Louvre, a collection of persons, apparently much affected by some extraordinary occurrence. Upon my arrival at the spot, I found a man on the ground, about fifty years old, deprived entirely of consciousness. The livid black appearance of his countenance, and the frothy blood which issued from his mouth, rendered the nature of the attack sufficiently evident. I observed among the by-standers our respected colleague, M. Brischet; and, upon conversing together respecting the unfortunate subject before us, we agreed that a sudden effusion of blood had taken place on the brain; the pulse was almost imperceptible. We therefore conceived that the disorder was beyond the reach of medicine, and under this feeling left the spot.

"But in consequence of one of those impulses which are so natural to our profession, after having retreated some little distance, I returned to the unfortunate man, with a view to make a sort of hopeless experiment as to the available nature of treatment. Having ordered the man to be conveyed on a shutter to a more convenient situation, near the Pont des Arts, I made a large opening in a vein of the arm, and ordered a napkin to be applied to the head, dipped in cold water. After some minutes, the man, whom we had thought dying, opened his eyes in apparent astonishment; and very soon after, the blood continuing to flow from the vein, he began to speak, but evidently with great confusion; by degrees both respiration and circulation were restored to their wonted freedom and regularity.

"At the end of about a quarter of an hour, after the loss of about two pounds of blood, his memory and understanding were restored, and the left side, which before the venesection was completely paralyzed, became moveable. He was now able to tell us his name and residence, and we placed him in a coach, and conveyed him to his house.

"There, placed on a bed, I ordered incessant affusions of cold iced water on his head, and he drank lemonade made likewise with iced water, and in five hours I left him: upon returning, three hours after, I found him disposed to sleep, the pulse beating full and hard, and the surface of the body highly coloured. I now took from his arm another pound of blood, from which he expressed much relief. During the

whole of the night he was calm, but did not sleep; he felt thirsty, and had an evacuation from the bowels, without any assistance from medicine.

"On the next day I found the countenance serene, and the pulse soft and regular. No weakness was felt. A desire was expressed for some food, and some broth was allowed.

"The following is the history he was now able to give of himself:—About three months previously to the attack he returned from Egypt, whither he had been upon some commercial speculation. He had observed that a cutaneous eruption, which was considered the consequence of the climate, had disappeared since his residence in France, which was doubtless occasioned by the change in the temperature of the air to which he was exposed. From the moment that these eruptions declined, his head had become heavy and painful, and occasionally he was actually giddy, with considerable and repeated noises in his ears.

"On the evening prior to the attack, he had nearly fallen as he was walking along, but his senses soon returned. In the morning he repaired to the observatory, where he made a light breakfast with a friend; and on returning through the Luxembourg gardens towards noon, a flow of blood towards his head forced him to rest some time upon a bench. During the day he took several walks in the city, and was returning to his lodgings about four o'clock, when he was seized in the court of the Louvre; he recollected having found himself unwell in the Luxembourg, and he could hardly be persuaded that it was not there that he required the aid of medicine.

"I continued to visit the man for the four subsequent days, and on the sixth from the attack, I left him in a very satisfactory state, with written directions with respect to the mode of living, which would be the most likely to insure him against a future attack."

That a medical man, particularly Brischet, should pronounce the case of a man with low pulse, and *frothy blood escaping from his mouth*, lying in an insensible state, hopeless apoplexy, or apoplexy from effusion of blood within the skull, is to us a matter of no small astonishment. The frothy blood could not come from the brain. The frothy appearance plainly proved that it came from the windpipe, and that the state of the man arose chiefly from over-distention of the blood-vessels of the chest, a common cause of stupor or insensibility, partly, perhaps, in consequence of preventing the free return of blood from the head, and of diminishing the action of the heart.

HADLEY'S CONVULSION POWDERS.—This nostrum has been lately very industriously advertised under Honourable, and even *Right Honourable* sanction, as "a *certain* remedy for *convulsion fits* in children, *while* teething, and for grown persons in spasmodic complaints"!! The proprietor, in his learned dissertation on the wonder-working antispasmodic powers of his nostrum, observes, "The powerful virtues of this specific in a short time relieves the suffering infant, and by a due perseverance in its application, completely *extirpates* the *convulsion* fits, and restores the MOST *weakly* children, afflicted with disorders incident to the bowels, to a state of perfect health"!!! "These powders," says he, "are not limited to children, but *embrace* ALL spasmodic complaints, to which adults are subject, and which, if not *repelled*,

carry the unfortunate sufferer to the tomb in a few hours. As the disorders relative to the stomach, which produce spasmodic affections, arise frequently from indigestion and indisposition of the viscera, these powders produce the pleasing effect of allaying inflammation in its early progress, and *reorganising* and strengthening the system" !!! "These powders," proceeds the *learned* proprietor, "have been found *eminently* efficacious in epileptic or falling fits, and those produced by fevers and wounds, also to females in fits, during *their* pregnancy, and *subsequent* accouchement, with the *happiest and most salutary* effects" !!!

From the striking similarity of the erudite proprietor's phraseology or jargon, to that of *Doctor* James Johnson's Medico-Chirurgical *Review*, we suspect he is one of those *highly respectable* medical gentlemen who write for his Journal under the Doctor's superintendence.

To this most contemptible nonsense, the Proprietor has been authorized to add the names of Her Grace the Duchess of Rutland, Lady Amherst, Lady Lismore, Lady George Cavendish, Lady Caroline Lamb, Lady Catharine Walpole, Lady C. Dundas, the Honourable Mrs. Egerton, Mrs. Bathurst and Mrs. Grey!!! One would suppose that there was not to be found, in this country, a person arrived at the age of maturity, (unless an idiot or a maniac) so ignorant as not to be aware that convulsions and spasms, both in infants during dentition, and adults, arise from opposite causes, and are attended with opposite states of the system. In infants, convulsions are always the consequences of morbid excitement of the brain, and are frequent precursors of inflammation of that organ. Now such cases, in two days, often advance to an incurable pitch. By trusting to popular and advertised remedies, incapable of arresting the progress of the malady, the lives of many thousand children are annually sacrificed in this country.

If the right honourable and honourable patrons of this remedy are aware that convulsions are symptomatic of affections of the brain, opposite in their nature, of which they cannot be ignorant, we beg to ask them if, by allowing the proprietor to advertise his nostrum under the sanction of their names, which, on weak minds, has, no doubt, considerable influence, they do not incur an awful responsibility to their country and to their God? We have given their names, that our readers who are acquainted with them, may point out the absurdity, (to say the best of such inconsiderate conduct) of sanctioning a *general* remedy for a disease, which arises from opposite causes.

On examining this "highly patronised, infallible specific," we find it to consist of vegetable powders, possessing no medicinal virtues, highly perfumed with musk!! Musk is an old remedy for convulsive fits, in persons of leucophlegmatic habits and general debility of the nervous system; but the proportion in this nostrum is much too small to prove beneficial.

To say a medicine is not capable of doing harm, is, in the opinion of some, a kind of negative recommendation; but in an acute disease, of which convulsions are mere symptoms, the medicine which is not capable of checking the progress of the malady, we would term a most dangerous one, inasmuch as by the delay its use occasions in adopting a mode of treatment proportioned to the mischief, the patient loses his life. Think of this, ye Right Honourable and Honourable Patronisers

of Hadley's *certain* remedy for *Convulsion* Fits in Infants and Adults, and ask yourselves what serious mischief you have done, by lending your names to such a disgraceful traffic, viz. that of tampering with the life of man, for the sake of lucre.

TINDER'S PILE SPECIFIC.—This nostrum, like the Canadian Ointment of *Dr.* Hart, is recommended as an infallible specific for Piles. It is the common senna tea of nurseries. The contents of a four-shilling and sixpenny bottle cost the *benevolent* proprietor two-pence; for he, good soul! like the proprietors of other nostrums, is actuated only by motives of humanity in giving publicity to so valuable a remedy—a remedy which twenty years' experience has satisfied him to be infallible! It is recommended under the sanction of his Majesty, viz. a sixpenny stamp!!!

SULPHUROUS FUMIGATION.—Sir Arthur Clarke, M. D. &c. &c. of Dublin, has lately added to his useful publications, "an Essay on the Diseases of the Skin, containing practical Observations on sulphurous Fumigations in the Cure of many Chronic Affections of the Skin, with Cases illustrative of the Efficacy of the Remedy." The results of the numerous trials Sir Arthur has given sulphurous fumigation, confirm the favourable reports of M. Galés, of Paris, in a publication lately translated in this country, by Dr. Rees Price. Sir Arthur has found sulphur applied to the skin in the form of vapour, to invigorate the body, to hasten the separation of diseased cuticle, and the production of new, and to render the skin white and smooth. In the scaly diseases of the skin, termed leprous, and also in itch, sulphurous fumigation has proved particularly beneficial. In cases of pseudo-syphilitic affections of the skin, Sir Arthur has also employed this remedy with the most decided advantage.

We are glad to find that sulphurous fumigation is becoming a favorite remedy with many practitioners of eminence, and that it is administered by gentlemen who are capable of determining the cases to which it is applicable, and of applying it judiciously. Many valuable remedies have fallen into disrepute, in consequence of being quacked or misapplied. In London, the reputation of sulphurous fumigation, has suffered much by a notorious quack, who, by admitting atmospheric air to the part in which the sulphur was sublimed, the sulphuric *acid* was produced, which occasioned very serious and extensive inflammation of the skin. It has also been improperly employed in inflammatory cases.

In Brighton, we find, sulphurous fumigation has been very successfully employed in a variety of chronic affections of the skin, by Mr. Dick, an experienced surgeon. In such hands it will, no doubt, support the high character which has been given it by Dr. De Carro, of Vienna; M. Galés, of Paris; Sir Arthur Clarke, and Dr. Rees Price.

Sir Arthur Clarke's very judicious precautions and instructions, in employing sulphurous vapour, we shall give in our next Number.

REGIMEN, &c.—The practice of the medical profession of this country, of attempting to cure diseases by medicine only, has been much condemned by some of the leading physicans on the continent. "The London physicians," observes one of them, "on being consulted by an invalid, think of nothing but draughts, mixtures, and boluses, and for these they give a long prescription without any directions as to regi-

men; and such is the confidence of their patients in the healing powers of their combinations of drugs, that it is common for an invalid to swallow a nauseous draught every three or four hours with avidity, and obstinately refuse to take any thing in the shape of food. Fill a bottle with broth, and tell him it is a medicine, the patient will swallow it willingly; but if he be urged to take a little food in the same form, he will shake his head, and declare his stomach will not bear it." The same physician told us that out of thirty patients which he was in the habit of visiting daily in Paris, he did not, on an average, prescribe medicine for more than three. Many of the diseases to which poor humanity is liable unquestionably arise from the use of improper food and from gluttony.

Dietetic medicine was particularly cultivated by Hippocrates, and of such importance did he consider it, as the means of preserving health, and even curing disease, that he was desirous of being considered the founder of it. Of late years many works have appeared on this subject, but they have not proved useful guides to the public in general, in consequence of not being sufficiently practical and plain.

Mr. Tweed, of Bocking, a scientific surgeon of experience, aware of the imperfections of the various treatises on Diet, &c. has lately published "A popular Treatise on Regimen and Diet," in which he has pointed out and explained the nature and qualities of the common articles of food, and given practical rules and regulations, adapted to various situations and circumstances, from infancy to old age, during disease and health.—The health of the body depending on a judicious choice of food, "it is of great importance," says Mr. Tweed, "to understand what is the most proper for our *nourishment*; and in particular *deviations* from *health*, what is the *best adapted* to *restore us*.

"It is a just observation, that he who lives by rule and wholesome diet, is a physician to himself.

"Weakly people should eat *little* and *often*; as, by *long fasting*, *weak* stomachs are apt to be oppressed by wind, &c. Whenever such persons find an appetite for food, they should indulge it by eating moderately.

"*Drinking little* at a time and often, is most wholesome, to promote digestion. Large and copious *draughts* distend the *stomach* and pall the appetite.

"It is computed that the proportion of our drink to that of our *solid food*, is nearly as *five* to *two*.

"*Beer*, drank directly after *soup*, is pernicious in weak stomachs; as, by producing fermentation, it generates flatulence, fulness, &c.

"*Strong drinks*, of every kind, are hurtful to the stomach, but, when carried to excess, become a poison to the body, and in the event frequently destroy it.

"But of the *two*, intemperance in *drinking* is less injurious than in *eating*. The natural constitution of the body of man is such, that it can easily bear *some changes* and irregularities, without much mischief.

"When the body *is too full*, from any cause whatever, *nature* causes evacuations through some of the *outlets*.

"For instance, if from being *very cold*, the *insensible perspiration* is checked, (which is the *greatest* of all the *discharges* of the human body,) nature makes an effort to relieve herself from the oppression, by

increasing the quantity of urine: or, if the *head* be too full of *blood*, she endeavours to relieve herself by a *profuse bleeding* at the *nose*.

"Those who are subject to indigestion, commonly termed *bilious*, should avoid all pastry, unripe fruits, pickles, cucumbers, new liquors, thick beer, bad wines, bad spirits, rich sauces, soups, and every thing which is flatulent, windy, or in its nature hard of digestion.

"On the contrary, their food should be light, and simple: they should never mix *too many* things together. Their *drink* should be moderate and nourishing, but not heating: and above all things, they should pay particular attention to the state of the bowels."

Of the general consent between the mind, the stomach, &c., he observes, "the stomach has a very general consent with the whole system. Nothing affects the *mind* more than the state of the *stomach*, and nothing draws the stomach into sympathy more than *affections* of the *mind*.

"*Man* is evidently not formed for continual *thought*, more than *perpetual action*; and he would as soon be worn out by the *one* as the other.

"*Intense thinking* and *anxiety*, never fail to *weaken* the *powers* of *digestion*, and consequently to produce various diseases. The *passions* have great influence, both on the *cause* and *cure* of diseases; there is established a reciprocal influence betwixt the mental and corporeal parts; and we know, from experience, that whatever disorders the *one*, likewise affects the other. The *best way* to *counteract* the violence of *any passion*, is to keep the *mind* closely employed in some *useful pursuit*. In a word, to possess health *of body*, we must enjoy *peace of mind*.

"*Mens sana in Corpore sano.*"

"The *quantity* of food to be actually taken, must be regulated by the appetite, which is a great *indication* of *health*. *Satiety* is the natural consequence of *repletion*; and before this takes place, the stomach itself gives the alarm.

"Different *degrees of labour* and fatigue, different employments and professions, require different degrees of refreshment. Every man is, or ought to be, certainly the best judge of the nature of *his own constitution*. *Experience* will soon teach him *what kind of food* will be of prejudice or benefit to it, and what quantity of *wine* will make him cheerful, and exhilarate the spirits, or occasion him to be dull and stupid.

"Much has been said of *temperance*; and different people have different ideas of it. The fact is, that there is an absolute determined *temperance* to be measured by every man's natural unprovoked appetite, digestion, and consumption, while he continues in a good state of health, and right habit of life."

Of sleep, Mr. Tweed remarks: "The *proper* time for *sleep* is the *night*, when *darkness* and silence invite and bring it on. *Day sleep* is *less refreshing*: which rule, if it be proper for the multitude to observe, much more is the observance of it necessary for persons addicted to *literary studies*, whose minds and bodies are more susceptible of injuries.

"*Children* require more sleep than *grown persons*; the *laborious* than the *idle*; and such as eat and *drink* freely, than those who live *abstemiously*.

"*Six or seven hours* is certainly sufficient for most people, and no one ought to exceed *eight*. I hardly ever knew an *early riser* who did

not enjoy a good state of health; yet it is a well-known fact, *that too early rising* will frequently disorder *invalids* for the *whole day;* especially in *cold* and *bad* weather.

"*Sleeping*, immediately after dinner, is, generally speaking, an unwholesome custom: yet we find that *old people* frequently require it, indulge in it, and are refreshed by it. It is the balm of *age* and *infancy*. The loss of *rest* is often severely felt by the *gay* and the *dissipated;* and *late* hours will undermine the strongest constitutions. I cannot express the genial powers of *sleep*, in words so expressive as in the *emphatic* language of the poet:—

"*Tir'd nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep.*"

On the propriety of taking the meal termed supper, during health, on which physicians of celebrity entertain opposite opinions, Mr. Tweed observes:

"*Light suppers* cause sound sleep, though there are some people who cannot sleep unless they have eaten some *solid* food at night; but this does not imply the necessity of a *heavy supper*. Besides, these are generally persons who have accustomed themselves to this method, and who do not take a sufficient quantity of solid food through the day.

"It is worthy of observation, that it is always *prejudicial* after suffering *severe hunger*, or very long fasting, to eat *immoderately;* or, after a full and *constant* feeding, to *fast* absolutely. It is what is very frequently done; and with some *sort of stomachs* it may succeed. But each *extreme* is dangerous to most constitutions."

A late French writer on insanity states, that he has found maniacal patients to sleep more soundly after a moderate supper, and nervous subjects, in general, experience a more restless night if they avoid this meal. Probably, in such cases, the determination which takes place to the stomach during digestion relieves the brain, and thereby quiets, in some degree, the nervous system. A distended stomach, when the body is in an horizontal position, by compressing the large blood vessels, occasions a plethoric state of the vessels of the brain; and in subjects predisposed to apoplexy has occasioned that disease. It is also a common cause of the night-mare.

Mr. Tweed notices the nature and properties of the various kinds of food, vegetable and animal, as well as the condiments and preserves which are employed in this country. Of the value of this part of the work, the following extract will enable our readers to form an opinion:

"*Of Beef.—Beef* is *not* so easy of digestion as *mutton*, being of a more *firm texture;* but is equally nutritious.

"The *lean* part of *fat beef* is *most* easy of digestion.

"*Cow-beef* is not so *tender*, nor so nourishing, nor so digestible as *ox-beef*.

"The tongue, the tripe, and sausages made of beef, are more difficult of digestion than the beef itself.

"*Of Veal.*—Veal is not so easily digested as *beef;* nor is it so nutritious, nor so *well* suited to *weak stomachs*, as is generally imagined. It should be eaten with some acid, as vinegar, &c.

"Beef tea and mutton tea are much more wholesome for weak stomachs than the broths usually made from those meats.

"*Mutton.*—Mutton is well known to be a highly *nutritious* and wholesome meat: it is, perhaps, more universally used than any other animal food. Wether mutton, or the flesh of the castrated animal, is most esteemed, and is by far the sweetest and most digestible. Sanctorius speaks of *mutton* as the most perspirable of all food.

"*Beef Steaks*, when very nicely and properly drest, with all their juices in, and eaten in their simple state, are *easy of digestion*, highly *nutritious*, and proper for *convalescents*. But when eaten with rich *oyster sauce*, &c. they become a dish fit for the epicure.

"*Mutton and Lamb Chops*, like beef steaks, should be drest with their gravy *in*; they are then very light and easy of digestion; but when the *outer surface* is hardened by *heat*, they are fit only for strong stomachs.

"*Bullock's Heart*, when stuffed, roasted, and eaten with gravy, has a great resemblance to hare. It is *more* digestible than a very *old hare*, but not so easy of digestion as a *young one*.

"*Lamb*, being less *heating*, and less *dense* than mutton, is better suited to *weak* stomachs.

"Lamb, however, is subject to a *particular* management: if the lamb be allowed to suck its mother *six* months, or longer, it becomes an aliment more nourishing and digestible than a lamb of the same age that has been weaned, as is usual, at the end of *two* months.

"*House Lamb*, is not so wholesome as the lamb which *runs abroad*, in its natural state."

The author's remarks on the properties of coffee, tea, wine, ale, spirits, are also very valuable. A perusal of the work will satisfy the reader that the real object of the author in writing it was not to enrich himself, but to communicate to the public useful information. We have found every page filled with such valuable matter, that we have not been able to concentrate it, so as to convey to our subscribers the substance of it, without devoting a greater proportion of our work to it than we can spare. We shall conclude this article with a quotation from the author's preface, which, on reference to the work, will be found to convey no higher a character of it than it really merits.

"By consulting this little Treatise, every one may know what is salutary or pernicious to his constitution.

"The *valetudinarian* will find in it Rules which may promote his recovery; and he who enjoys good health may learn to preserve it.

"Many writers of celebrity, medical and others, have been consulted upon the various subjects; not without a disposition to acknowledge their assistance; and the author's experience has been introduced, occasionally, in order to illustrate the practice herein recommended.

"The advantages to be derived from a work of this nature, by those who have not an opportunity of consulting elaborate treatises, upon distinct subjects, are too obvious to require elucidation; and the compiler trusts, that even this little Essay will be found not without its use, as a compendium of practical information and knowledge: and should it be favourably received by the public, and rendered, in any degree, beneficial to those for whom it was intended, he will have the satisfaction, in the evening of his days, of reflecting that his work, which pretends not to splendour of talent, or accuracy of language, may claim, at least, the praise of utility."

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 71. To NOVEMBER 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

PROGRESS OF MEDICINE, &c.—(*Continued from page* 1069.)

IN taking a view of the phenomena of animal life, it will not only be necessary to regard the perfect and healthy state of the body, but to notice the various gradations of health, the accessions, forms, progress, and modes of termination of the diseases to which the body is liable; and, in this extensive scope, neither παραφυσις nor οδινησις will be neglected; but each will have ascribed to it its relative share in the universal principle—Quietem efficere.

Paraphusis, or propagation, is the means of accomplishing an important purpose in the animal economy, that of propagating the species, on which the perpetuation of animal life depends; it is effected by a certain process in the animal; and by another certain process in the vegetable kingdom. But these are only varieties of modes, there is no difference in the principle; neither can more than one legitimate principle be discovered, either in the progress, or the full accomplishment of the process.

So it is, also, with respect to the support of life by food and drinks. The state of rest is disturbed by the feeling of want, an uneasy sensation at the stomach, provoking a desire to swallow food; but that desire is suspended on the stomach being satisfied with food. The disturbance of rest provoked the action, and the performance of the action restored rest.

Now, though these processes are dissimilar, the principle is the same; the commencement of each is disturbance of rest, and the end of each is rest again, Αρχη.

The whole period of utero-gestation is marked by many varieties or shades of animal operations; but they are only varied modes, governed altogether in their commencement, and in their progress, by the universal and sole principle.

The process of parturition has its accession, its intermediate stages, and its final accomplishment under the government of the original principle, the same as that of paraphusis; that is, it commences with the disturbance of rest; and rest is the end of the accomplishment.

A nerve has its appropriate and its only capability allotted to it, and no other modification of animal matter has such capability; it is Æsthephoresis, or that of carrying perceptions, as materials to be elaborated into mind, to the brain, and the commands of the mind to the moving solid; and this function is the inevitable consequence of the organization of a nerve.

The same may be said with respect to the muscle, and all other definable animal solids, whether they be simple or compound.

But though peculiar modifications of animal, and, consequently, corresponding peculiarities of function, are discoverable, and viewed ab-

stractedly, they are, nevertheless, in the aggregate, essential to life; they are governed by inflexible laws of sympathetic concord, summed up in one principle—Quietem efficere.

In further confirmation of the correctness of the proposition, I would observe, that the function of a muscle is Action, κινησις, alternating with Rest, ακινησις. Its capability is exercised only when its rest is disturbed by the volitions sent through the nerve that supplies that individual muscle; hence, if the nerve be compressed, the muscle will remain in a state of rest; so, also, if a muscle be strongly pressed, it cannot perform its function, though volition is carried to it by the nerve; but on removing the pressure, in either of the above instances, motion will be restored.

We see then the necessity of the connection of nerve with muscle to afford the capability of loco-motion, as well as the impossibility of a segregate state of derangement of any one of the vital or animal functions.

Indeed, in voluntary motions, there are three distinct functions employed simultaneously; that is, the will or volition, Æsthesis—the carrier of volition, Æsthephoresis—and the moving power, Kinesis. One to will, another intermediate, and another to do.

But let it be remembered, that the will does not originate in the nerve; it originates in the brain within the head; the nerve is only the carrier of the will, and the corresponding actions of the moving solid determine the judgments of men, all acting their respective parts to obtain rest, the very object and end of volition.

Again, take notice of the consequence of the function of the brain being impaired, as in cases of depression of the cranium, or other causes of what is ridiculously called apoplexy, in which the volitions are suspended, whilst the capability of the nerves and the muscles continue, and which are exerted immediately on restoring volition, by removing the pressure from the brain.

But they would remain in an eternal state of rest if volition were not restored.

This view of the subject, as relates to voluntary actions, might, one would think, be sufficient to establish the proposition; but another consideration strikes me with so much force, and appears so pregnant with practical utility, that I cannot let it slip away unnoticed. I mean the Physiology of the Vascular System.

It is not my intention to go any further into this subject, than to shew that the same principle, Quietem efficere, reigns alone in this empire also. *(To be continued.)*

PHARMACOLOGY.—On this important branch of the healing art, viz. "the *scientific* methods of administering medicinal articles, and explaining the object and theory of their operation," the fourth edition of a work has lately appeared from the pen of Dr. Paris, under the title of "Pharmacologia; or, the History of Medicinal Substances, with a view *to* establish the *art* of prescribing and *of* composing extemporaneous formulæ upon *fixed* and *scientific* PRINCIPLES, illustrated by formulæ, in which the *intention* of each *element* is designated by Key Letters."

The Doctor proceeds like a man of science, coolly and methodically, in the history of the revolutions that have occurred in the reputation, &c. of medicinal substances, till he arrives at the Pharmacopœia, the unfortunate Pharmacopœia of the London College of Physicians, of which

he is a member; and here he loses his philosophical coolness, and falls, most unmercifully, on those who have dared to find fault with its chemistry or whimsicalities. He makes a formidable display of sophistical ingenuity to persuade his readers that the Pharmacopœias and Dispensatories have *cautiously* kept pace with the scientific progress of the age, and that, "from their origin to the present time, it cannot but prove gratifying to them to observe the gradual influence of knowledge in reducing the *number* of their articles, *simplifying* the *composition* of the formulæ, and *improving* the processes for *their* preparation." Instead of pointing out the errors of those who have taken the trouble to notice the chemical blunders, &c. of the Pharmacopœia, the learned Doctor, like the advertising quacks, when their trade is exposed, contents himself by boldly asserting that their object was "not to elicit truth or advance science, but to obtain notoriety by provoking a discussion with the College"!! The quacks uniformly declare, that the opposition they have experienced from the medical profession, arises entirely from interested motives, and that the object of their assailants is to give publicity to themselves. Now, will any man, who has read the observations of Brande, Hume, Phillips and others, on the Pharmacopœia, say that they are not just and strictly chemical, and that they are not in every respect highly creditable to them as men of *real* scientific attainments? The liberal Doctor observes, with a degree of truth, for which we give him credit, that "he is *most anxious to avoid a contest*, in which victory itself must be disgraceful,"—disgraceful, indeed, to the vanquished. The policy of the Doctor is highly creditable to a man who is desirous to continue the book-making traffic. In attacking such men, men who are deservedly considered the most scientific chemists of the age, the Doctor has, no doubt, the vanity to suppose that he will gain a little importance with his ignorant readers. A complete "set-down answer" to the Doctor's scurrilous insinuation is, that the College found it necessary, in consequence of the candid and scientific exposure of their incompetency to compose a Pharmacopœia, by Brande, Phillips, Hume, and others, to publish a new edition of their Book, in which they availed themselves of the remarks of those gentlemen. The excuse assigned by the College for making a *new* Pharmacopœia is, "the vast improvements in medicine." Now, can Dr. Paris, or any fellow of the College, point out proof of such improvements in their Pharmacopœia? How the reduction of the *number* of the articles can be deemed an improvement, we are at a loss to conjecture, inasmuch as the articles which are omitted possess as much virtue as those which are retained. This was their cant in their pretended *improved* edition of 1787, and yet in their present *improved* edition, which, they say, keeps pace with the progress of science, they have introduced many of the formulæ which they erased from the edition published in 1745!!! In their attempt to simplify the composition of medicines, they have shewn more whimsicality than science; for instance, they say that saffron and cochineal possess no medicinal property, and are useful only as colouring articles. In the tincture of cantharides cochineal is omitted, not only because it imparted no property to the tincture, but because, when the tincture is coloured, it may be mistaken for some other tincture!! Now, when not coloured, is it not more likely to be mistaken for a spirit or a simple water? In the compound tincture of bark, a tincture

which requires no colouring matter, both cochineal and saffron are ordered!! Is this consistent with the vast improvements in medicine, or is it not a censurable inconsistency? In the formula for the camphorated tincture of opium (the new name for paregoric elixir), the oil of aniseeds is omitted, because *they* supposed it to be a stimulant. Now, are not the flowers of benzoin, which is retained, more stimulating? The tincture is administered only in chronic cough and asthma, and the oil of aniseeds, in our humble opinion, is as valuable an article as any of the ingredients, except the opium. Oil of aniseeds is a popular remedy for spasmodic asthma, and the omission of it has brought many retail chemists, who have made the tincture according to the College, into disrepute. The alteration in the strength of the dilute sulphuric acid, has been productive of considerable mischief. The College should have considered that there are such things as family receipts, that the article is a popular medicine, and that the medical works, then in existence, would not be destroyed when their Pharmacopœia appeared. A medicine, compounded according to a receipt or prescription, in which the dilute vitriolic acid is ordered, from a work published anterior to the Pharmacopœia, would contain double the quantity of the vitriolic acid the prescriber intended, and in delicate subjects, the additional quantity has been productive of very serious consequences. Now is this alteration in the strength of so powerful a remedy, whimsicality, or was the necessity of it indicated by the vast improvements in medicine? They have introduced a few new formulæ, one of which is the compound decoction of aloes, for which they acknowledge themselves indebted to quackery, and in this, saffron, although they assert it contains no medicinal property, is by far the most expensive ingredient.

Among the articles introduced in the new Pharmacopœia, which the College erased from an old edition, the following curious composition, under the name of confection of rue, is entitled to particular attention:

Take of Rue Leaves, dried,
Caraway Seeds,
Bay-berries, of each an ounce and a half,
Sagapenum, half an ounce,
Black Pepper, two drachms,
Clarified Honey, sixteen ounces.

"This," says Dr. Powell, "is introduced as a substitute for the old bay-berry electuary, which was omitted in the Pharmacopœia of 1787. Its use," he adds, "is confined to clysters." In what disease in a human subject, can such a composition, in the form of clyster, be proper? In the dry belly-ache of an old cow, it certainly might prove useful; but we know of no disease of the human race, to which such a stimulating clyster can be applicable. But the College did not, like Dr. Paris, publish for the instruction of "*inexperienced practitioners*," and therefore they have not thought it necessary either to specify the name of the disease or the dose of the remedy.

They have introduced a new formula for a purgative pill, composed of

Gamboge,
Extract of Spiked Aloes,
Compound Cinnamon Powder, of each 3 drachms,
Hard Soap, one drachm.

To this formula, a *practitioner* would make a few objections. In the

first place, gamboge is a very uncertain purgative, on some persons having little or no effect, and on others operating violently—occasioning most distressing spasms. A fatal objection to the compound powder of cinnamon is, its astringent property, which must counteract the cathartic quality of the other ingredients. In a former edition, the combination of soap with aloes was condemned, because *experience* had proved that in consequence of the alcali being neutralized by an acid in the stomach, the soap is decomposed, and the aloes rendered by the fat more difficult of solution. In the present edition, soap has been restored to all the formulæ in which it had been omitted, and is declared to assist *chemically* in promoting the solution of aloes and other gum-resinous extracts!!! Hence, at any rate, the pharmacopœia affords incontestable evidence of the retrograding state of medicine in the College of Physicians and the English Universities.

This, with the other new or old and altered formulæ, is a most ridiculous composition. But, oh! says Dr. Paris, we have introduced the new chemical nomenclature; and here we shine. Here are the vast improvements in medicine to be found!! The new names were *then* very proper in *philosophical* chemistry, but to pharmaceutical articles they are misapplied. Whether the name of an article expresses the composition or *medicinal* virtues, is, in our humble opinion, of no consequence; indeed, we agree with the late Bishop Watson, that in pharmacy that name is best by which the article is generally known. Now in adopting the new nomenclature, they should have shewn that their knowledge of the science extended beyond the names. Had they been conversant with the science of chemistry, they would not have termed the subcarbonate of magnesia a carbonate, the subcarbonate of ammonia a carbonate, &c. &c.

The articles sold under the names of the new chemical nomenclature by the chemist for pharmaceutical purposes, and by the chemist who prepares them for analytical or experimental purposes, are not the same; the latter selling the salts in solution, and the former in crystals. The latter is also very particular in the preparation of these articles, as the smallest impurity would give rise to erroneous results; whereas, the latter obtains his articles from the manufactories of pharmaceutical chemicals, which are less pure.

Philosophical chemistry is a new creation, and at the time the College revised their Pharmacopœia, it was in its infancy; and had the College kept up with the discoveries, the names of their chemical articles would ere this have been changed three or four times. With respect to the improvements in the preparation of chemicals, we need only notice the article *emetic tartar*. So conversant were they with the state of chemical science, that they directed the fluid which contained the article to be thrown away, and that to be preserved as emetic tartar, which contained no emetic quality, and which was not, as they termed it, tartarized antimony!! This error was pointed out by Mr. Hume and Mr. Phillips, not with a view of obtaining notoriety, as Dr. Paris meanly insinuates, but for the benefit of suffering humanity; for how often does the life of a patient, especially an infant, depend on the full operation of emetic tartar on the stomach?

When the Pharmacopœia was ready for publication, the College

applied to his Majesty's Privy Council, to issue a proclamation to compel all the apothecaries of England strictly to adhere to the formulæ, &c. of their learned production; and notwithstanding they have since published a corrected edition, this proclamation applies only to their former pretended improved one!!!

The London Pharmacopœia indeed affords but too many proofs of the retrograding state of medicine; and were medicine entirely under their control, it would soon be in the state in which Hippocrates found it.

The exorbitantly high price of 10s. 6d. a copy, at which the first edition of the Pharmacopœia was published, is a most satisfactory proof of their being desirous to discharge conscientiously the duty imposed on them by their charter, viz. of promoting the science of medicine for the benefit of his Majesty's liege subjects, the good citizens of London!!

In every country of Europe the national Pharmacopœia is distributed gratuitously among the medical members of the Colleges, and had the College published it at 1s. a copy, they might have made a considerable sum by the work.

The English version of the book has always had an extensive sale; the first edition of it was therefore hurried through the press with such rapidity, in order that no person should have time to publish another translation of it, that it contained *only one hundred errors!!!* These, Dr. Paris, no doubt, considers very trifling in a work published as a guide for apothecaries, in preparing the medicines, and, in some measure, for administering them to his afflicted fellow creatures, the favourable termination of whose maladies often depends on the greatest nicety. We have heard, and, indeed, said so much of this most precious production, that we are really heartily sick of it, much more sick than their tartarized antimony or emetic tartar is capable of making us. Suffice it, therefore, to say, once for all, that it is a most contemptible and whimsical production, that it evinces rather a retrograding than an advancing state of pharmacy or pharmacology, and that not one single improvement which has been made in medicine, within the last ten years, originated with the College. Enough has been said to convince the legislature of the absolute necessity of transferring the revision of the Pharmacopœia to the Society of Apothecaries, and of uniting with the Colleges of Edinburgh and Dublin, in establishing a national work, and for adopting a nomenclature, which every apothecary would understand, for by changing the names, according to the discoveries in philosophical chemistry, many thousand lives have already been sacrificed.

Mr. Brande having asserted that the London Pharmacopœia is a record of the want of *chemical* knowledge, where it is most imperiously required, "because," says Dr. Paris, "Oxford and Cambridge physicians were its editors;" the Doctor enters into a defence of these universities, as schools of chemical science. "The greatest degree of cold," says the Doctor, "was produced at Oxford, and the highest temperature at Cambridge"!!! Besides, Cambridge, where the learned Doctor graduated, has produced some *valuable* discoveries, witness Dr. Clarke's "Art of Fusion, by burning the Gaseous Constituents of Water." Professor Kidd, of Oxford, is also, in the opinion of Dr.

Paris, a very learned chemist. Now, where did those discoverers or able chemists obtain their knowledge of the science? Assuredly not at an English university.

The analysers of the London Pharmacopœia, the Doctor has honoured with the title of "*ultra-chemists;*" were those gentlemen capable of retaliating, in giving the Fellows of the College the rank in the profession, to which their acquirements or medical knowledge entitle them, would they term them physicians, or pseudo-physicians? The ultra-chemists have given great offence to Dr. Paris and others, by pronouncing the following prescription of Dr. Scudamore unchemical:

Take of Magnesia, fifteen grains;
Sulphate of Magnesia, a drachm and half;
Vinegar of Meadow Saffron, one drachm;
Cinnamon Water, ten drachms;
Extract of Liquorice, ten grains.—Mix.

The magnesia uniting with the vinegar, forms the acetate of magnesia, and a portion of the extractive matter of the meadow saffron is deposited. The Doctor, however, contends, and Dr. Scudamore of course agrees with him, that the medical virtues of an article cannot be determined by an apparent chemical inconsistency. That, in fact, it was Dr. Scudamore's intention, by prescribing magnesia, to neutralize the vinegar, and thereby to form a watery solution of the extractive matter of the meadow saffron. Now, if this was the Doctor's object, why not order the powdered root of the meadow saffron, or the wine of the root? If the Doctor preferred an acetate of magnesia, why order the sulphate? The Doctor's defence of this most ridiculous prescription, shews that he is determined to defend what the College term legitimate medicine, through "thick and thin."

Dr. Paris, in defending his friend Scudamore, asserts, that a composition may be *medically* consistent, which is chemically incompatible, and *vice versa*, and that articles uniting, often form new medicines. In his defence of the London Pharmacopœia, he says that one of the beauties of modern pharmacy, is the simplifying the formulæ, by omitting numerous articles; now, according to the Doctor's reasoning, the combinations of the articles omitted might form a new medicine, possessing a property, which is not to be found in any of them separately. Such is College consistency. The rage for simplifying formulæ was condemned by the late Dr. Fordyce, who contended that no article should be omitted in a medicine of established reputation, merely on account of its possessing little medicinal virtue, for it may enhance the operation of the other ingredients, and with them form a peculiar medicine.

The "*presumption*" of chemists and apothecaries, in prescribing for patients, has been a source of great irritation or jealousy to the members of the College. "The Chemist," observes the Doctor, "can have no pretensions to the art of *composing* or of *discriminating remedies*"!!! "Whenever," says he, "he forsakes his laboratory for the bedside, he forfeits all his claim to *our* respect, and his title to *our* confidence"!!!

Now, if the Doctor alludes to Mr. Brande, he is aware that that gentleman is acquainted with every branch of medicine. He is not only an able chemist, but an able anatomist, physiologist, and surgeon,

and practically acquainted with diseases. In the abilities of a man so educated, a patient may place the most implicit confidence. Now, in our humble opinion, when a practitioner, unacquainted with chemistry, presumes to prescribe for a patient, he is acting the part of an impostor, and if he be not acquainted with surgery, or as Mr. John Bell observes, cannot bring to the aid of his patient a knowledge of every branch of medicine, he is a more dangerous quack than the advertiser of a specific for the cure of every disease incident to man.

In the Doctor's "History of Modern Medicine," the Fellows of the Royal College are of course very great men. "To Sir Francis Milman," says he, "the profession is highly indebted, for *hints* concerning the importance of accompanying the exhibition of diuretics with plentiful dilution." As for Dr. Young, the enlightened author of that valuable work, "Medical Literature," (now undergoing decomposition in the publisher's warehouse of dead books, he discovered, "that the balsam of copaiba *envelopes* metallic salts, so as to lessen their activity"!!! As for Pemberton he has discovered what no physician has since been able to do, viz. the medicinal virtues of dandelion.

Dr. Bree, on Disordered Respiration; Dr. Latham, on Gout, Rheumatism, and Diabetes, are absolutely *in*valuable works. The discovery of Dr. Paris of the virtues of "the *Prepared* Essence of Senna, as an article admirably adapted for domestic use," made by his relative, Mr. Selway, takes precedence of the most important discoveries that have been made in medicine since the establishment of legitimate physic, or sanction of quackery by the British legislature. This valuable discovery, we hope to be able to notice more particularly in our quack department.

With respect to the doses of medicine, the Doctor thinks he has discovered, that "powerful doses rather produce a *local* than a *general* effect"!! The experience he has had, has proved to *his* satisfaction, that the effect of an internal application, is similar to that of an external impression; if violent, it affects the part only as pinching does that of the skin, "whereas titillation, which may be said," says the Doctor, "to differ only from the former in degree, acts on the whole system, and occasions *itching* and *laughing*, and if long continued weakness, sickness, vomiting, and convulsions"!! Most accurate observer, and admirable collector of facts. Pinching differs only in degree from titillation!! The effects of an internal remedy similar to that of an external!! A large dose acts more locally than a small one!! Such nonsense cannot fail to titillate the risible muscles of an apothecary, and excite immoderate laughter at and sickness of the Doctor's theory.

Is not the effect of a pinch, and of titillation on the nerves very different? Is not the effect of the same stimulus to the stomach, and to the skin, often opposite; and does not a large dose of antimony, mercury, arsenic, or a vegetable poison, act more generally than a small one?

The learned Doctor has introduced "a collection of prescriptions," and in order to furnish *useful* and *instructive* lessons for the *inexperienced* prescriber, he employs "Key Letters," to explain the *modus*

operandi of the different *elements* of each composition. By way of elucidating this plan of teaching the art of prescribing, we shall introduce a few of the Doctor's formulæ.

"*Emetic draught.*

Take of Ipecacuan Wine, one drachm,
Tartarized Antimony, one grain, B,
Pure Water, an ounce and half, L.—Mix.

"The letter B signifies, that the tartarized antimony is added to the ipecacuan wine, (the base of the composition), to promote its action. L signifies, that the water makes it an eligible form, by which the *efficacy* of the medicine is enhanced."

Many a *practitioner* would suppose that the tartarized antimony was the basis of this draught, for no less than four reasons: 1st, because it is the strongest article; 2dly, because if it be necessary to keep in mind the *base* of a composition, it should be that which is capable of being decomposed; 3dly, because the quantity is sufficient to excite vomiting; and 4thly, because the quantity of ipecacuan wine is much too small to excite vomiting. In our humble opinion, the B. should have been placed opposite the article, ipecacuan wine. The idea that water is capable of "enhancing the efficacy of the medicine," will excite the risible muscles of an apothecary, because he knows, or should know, that ipecacuan wine with emetic tartar, when undiluted, acts more powerfully than when diluted, by irritating the œsophagus. By mechanically irritating this tube, every old woman knows that vomiting may be induced, without introducing a nauseating medicine into the stomach; but Dr. Paris, of course, is not an old woman, even in medicine.

"For *Bilious Colic.*

Take of Cathartic Extract, one drachm,
Purified Opium, three grains, E,
Oil of Nutmegs, eight drops, D.—Mix, and divide into twelve pills, of which he may take two every hour until two fæcal evacuations are produced.

The base of this prescription is the cathartic extract. E signifies that the purified opium promotes its action by obtaining the joint operation of two or more medicines which have different powers, and which are required to obviate different symptoms, or to answer different indications. The key letter D signifies that the oil of nutmeg corrects the operation of the basis by obviating *any* unpleasant effects it might be likely to occasion, and which would prevent its intended action, and *defeat* the objects of its exhibition." ! !

Every apothecary, and indeed farrier, knows that opium promotes the operation of a cathartic in cases of spasmodic colic, by allaying spasmodic constriction of the intestines, the cause of the constipation; but as there is always a strong disposition to inflammation in such cases, experienced practitioners generally give the preference to a less stimulating medium than the cathartic extract, for instance, a mixture of castor oil. Now as the Doctor's work is published as a guide for *inexperienced* practitioners, he should have explained what he or the College understand by *bilious cholic* (colic). Among old women we may expect to

hear of such a species, but a teacher, or a Fellow of the College, should be a little more correct in giving a name to a disease. We know no such disease as bilious *cholic*, or, bilious colic.

"*Cathartic Pills.*

Take of Compound Powder of Aloes, one drachm,
Antimonial Powder, five grains, C,
Hard Soap, ten grains, I, L,
Compound Decoction of Aloes, M. b, a sufficient quantity to form a mass.—To be divided into twenty pills.

The base of this composition is the compound powder of aloes. C signifies that the antimonial powder combines the base with substances of a different nature, and which do not exert any *chemical* influence upon it, but are found by *experience*, or inferred by analogy, to be capable of rendering the stomach or system more susceptible of its action. I L signify that by the intervention of the soap, which acts *chemically*, the efficacy of the remedy is enhanced"!! M. b, signify the compound decoction of aloes renders the *aspect* of the medicine more agreeable, or its mode of administering more convenient!!—The mass is directed to be divided into twenty pills, and two to be taken for a dose, so that of the article which is to render the stomach more susceptible of the action of the compound powder of aloes, the patient will take only half a grain!! An article of which a person may take ten or fifteen grains without producing any sensible effect either on the stomach or bowels; indeed, if any credit is due to Dr. Blundell's experiments with this powder, it may be administered to the extent of two drachms without disordering the stomach or the bowels. The pills, the Doctor terms *cathartic*, and therefore the action of the article, to promote the *cathartic* operation, should be more on the intestines than the stomach. A dose of the pills, containing only one grain of soap, we are at a loss how it can possibly enhance the *efficacy* of the medicine, or act chemically. Such is College consistency. How two or three drops of the compound decoction of aloes, of which the dose is a wine-glass full, can render the *aspect* of the composition more agreeable, or its mode of administration more convenient, we are at a loss to conjecture, unless it is by forming a mass, and for this purpose water would answer as well.

These specimens, fully explain the Doctor's scientific mode of instructing *inexperienced* practitioners to prescribe. Ridiculous and contemptible as the plan must appear to be to our medical readers, the Doctor asserts, that he has delivered a lecture on the subject at the College of Physicians, for the edification (amusement, we presume) of the members of that learned institution!!! The following mixture the learned physician denominates *expectorant* and *antispasmodic*, and recommends for the *hooping-cough*:

"Take of Mixture of Gum Ammoniac and Cinnamon Water, an ounce and a half,
Syrup of Tolu, half an ounce,
Tincture of Castor, two drachms,
——— of Opium, ten drops.—Mix.—A tablespoonful to be taken now and then; or, occasionally."

The Doctor has learnt that the tincture of castor is an antispasmodic!!

Inexperienced, indeed, must be his readers, to suppose that this contemptible composition possesses the power of allaying spasms. No apothecary who has been in practice one year, or knows any thing of hooping-cough, would administer such a medicine during the first stage of the disease.

A mixture of *Muriatic Acid,* Barley Water, and Syrup, the Doctor terms a refrigerant, and recommends for "Typhus and *other* fevers"!!

The following lotion the Doctor terms a *refrigerant:*

Take of Sal Ammoniac, two drachms,
Acetic Acid, two ounces,
Camphorated Spirit, half an ounce.—Mix."

The effect of this lotion to any part of the body, would be *inflammation;* and, consequently, instead of being a refrigerant, it is a powerful stimulant. As a considerable portion of the camphor is separated on addition of the acetic acid, many *practitioners,* or ultra-chemists, or indeed, pseudo-chemists, might deem this prescription unchemical.

Of the Doctor's class of astringents, the following prescription shews his competency to instruct *inexperienced* practitioners in the art of prescribing:

"Take of Infusion of Oak Bark, an ounce and a half,
Powdered Galls, ten grains,
Tincture of Catechu, half a drachm,
Compound Tincture of Cardamoms, half a drachm,
Syrup of Orange Peel, *half a drachm.*—Mix."

The Doctor has omitted to give the name of the disease, to the cure of which this scientific prescription is applicable. The oak bark, although the weakest astringent, is the base!!

The following the learned Doctor terms a tonic and a purgative, and recommends it for indigestion, hysteric fits, and *mesenteric obstruction.*

"Take of Ammoniated Iron, one drachm,
Extract of Gentian,
——— Aloes, of each half a drachm.

Mix well together, and divide the mass into thirty pills; two to be taken three times a day."

Indigestion and hysteric fits arise from opposite causes; but, we conceive, in no stage of mesenteric obstruction, or tumefaction of the mesenteric glands, is such a composition proper.

The collection of prescriptions is the most contemptible we have met with in any work, even Marriott's Art of Healing; and the author's explanation of the "modus operandi of the *elements* of each," the most ridiculous.

Young or "inexperienced practitioners" are generally deficient in the art of prescribing, and a scientific work on this subject is much wanted. The best guides, in our opinion, are the cause, the symptoms, general health, and peculiarity of constitution of the patient. The treatment of all diseases must be regulated by the state of the general health of the patient. For instance, in indigestion, arising from debility, with the view of quieting the stomach, or increasing its tone, we would order an infusion of cascarilla (seven ounces); to this we would add

such articles as the symptoms may indicate; for instance, if the patient complains of heartburn, we would add carbonate of soda (three drachms); if flatulence, we would add an aromatic, as the compound tincture of cardamoms (one ounce); and in case of spasms in the stomach or bowels, or general irritability or restlessness during night, we would add twenty grains of the extract of henbane. If the kidneys do not perform their office, we would employ a diuretic aromatic, in lieu of the compound tincture of cardamoms, as the compound spirit of juniper (an ounce and a half). If the bowels are disposed to constipation, we would prescribe extract of rhubarb; or in case of their being too open, we would employ lime-water, in lieu of the carbonate of soda and infusion of cascarilla, and as a tonic, we would add a drachm of the extract of rhatany. If any visceral obstruction exists, the blue pill will also be necessary; and in case of any internal local irritation, an external irritating plaster. Disease is a combination of symptoms, the violence and number of which often depend on the state of the system. Some symptoms may be termed pathognomonic, or characteristic of the disease, and others constitutional or idiosyncratic, arising from some peculiarity. There are generally sympathetic affections, arising from an extension of the disease or its operation on the constitution, which are too commonly considered by a certain class of physicians, or rather pseudo-physicians, *symptomatic*. The most judicious mode of prescribing is, in our humble opinion, to form a combination which the causes, symptoms, sympathies, and general state of the body and habits may indicate. A disease is, in fact, a compound, differing in different constitutions, and the composition of the remedy should be adapted to it. A remedy which has evinced a specific effect in a disease, may, in the same malady, in an opposite state of system, or from some peculiarity of constitution, prove highly injurious. The plan of instruction of *inexperienced* practitioners, adopted by Dr. Paris, is, therefore, a bad one. The system reminds us of the celebrated fable of the blind leading the blind.

We hope the learned author will pardon us for not devoting more of this number to his *labours*. In our next we shall conclude our notice of his miserable production.

IODINE.—Dr. Gamelle, first assistant surgeon of the Military Hospital of the Royal Guards, at Paris, has published, in the Bulletin of the Medical Society of Emulation, the history of several cases of wen, and a few of scrofulous eruptions, in which he administered the iodine with complete success. Dr. Pellier has given the solution of the iodine in alcohol (the tincture) an extensive trial in scrofula, the results of which have satisfied him that it is the only medicine that has been discovered, capable of correcting or acting specifically on scrofula. This physician states, that its peculiar property is destroyed by the combination with potass, as recommended by Sir A. Halliday; and that when thus combined, it possesses no medicinal property superior to common culinary salt, which it greatly resembles in taste. He has employed externally an ointment of iodine, in cases of scrofulous enlargement of glands and joints, with friction, in the same manner as mercurial ointment is used in this country, with evident advantage.

From the uniform beneficial effects of the internal use of the tincture

of iodine, we have no hesitation in attributing to it an antiscrofulous property. We shall at present briefly notice three cases in which it has succeeded.

Master W———, aged 18, had been afflicted for eighteen months with enlargement of the glands of the neck: a tumour evidently scrofulous formed on his right hand, which suppurated, and left a scrofulous ulcer. The lymphatics to the arm-pit inflamed, and on the upper arm several ulcerations followed. He had been subject to chronic inflammation of the eyes and eyelids. After taking the tincture of iodine, in the dose of twenty drops, twice a day, in marshmallow root decoction, the ulcers began to lose their scrofulous character, the tumours of the neck lost their tenderness, and became more soft, and the inflammation of the eyes and eyelids had nearly subsided. At the end of six weeks, during which time he took the remedy regularly twice a day, he was perfectly free from any symptom of the disease. The remedy was continued some weeks longer, with the view of destroying any predisposition to the disease that might remain in the system.

J. H. Esq. aged 45, had been afflicted with scrofula many years, for which he had taken several remedies, and tried sea air, without any beneficial effect. At the time he commenced the use of the tincture of iodine, he had several ulcerations from suppurated glands, a scrofulous enlargement of the left knee and of the right elbow. The affection of the joints was very painful. After taking thirty drops of the tincture twice a day, in a wine-glass full of the decoction of marshmallow root, the pain of the joints ceased, the discharge from the ulcerations became more healthy, and his general health improved. A diarrhœa coming on, he discontinued the remedy for ten days, during the last five of which the pains in the joints returned, the discharge of the ulcers became thinner, and the glandular tumours inflamed. He then reassumed the remedy, and after continuing it two months, was perfectly well.

Miss G———, aged 12, had been afflicted with scrofulous inflammation of the eyes for six months, and enlargement of the glands of the neck twelve months. After taking twenty drops of the tincture of iodine, twice a day, for a week, the inflammation considerably abated, and in three weeks it terminated, and in four more the swellings entirely subsided.

These cases we select from about thirty-five, which have occurred in our practice, since the introduction of the iodine, in all of which it succeeded without the use of any other auxiliary than the decoction of marshmallow root. The patients, having lived abstemiously, no alteration in their diet was made, except in the case of J. H. Esq. who adopted the use of the composition of British herbs, noticed in a former number, in lieu of foreign tea and coffee.

The reports of the effects of tincture of iodine we have received from Liverpool, Dublin, Edinburgh, and York, are highly in favour of its antiscrofulous property. In the case of a young woman of plethoric habit of body, it manifested no beneficial effect, till her system had been reduced by two copious bleedings.

DIFFICULT PARTURITION.—The Medico-Chirurgical Society of London has published a very interesting case of separation of

the os uteri, &c. which occurred in the practice of Mr. Scott, an able surgeon and accoucheur of Norwich. The lady was thirty-six years of age, and never had a child. After suffering very severe pains for some days, the first part of which she was attended by Mr. Keymer, a respectable surgeon of Norwich, she complained of a sense of bursting, after which a substance escaped, which, on examination, proved to be "a portion of the uterus, containing the os uteri, and a portion of the cervix surrounding it." Dr. Merriman, (now very deservedly the leading accoucheur of London) in accounting for this extraordinary occurrence, gave his opinion that the head of the child, in passing through the superior aperture of the pelvis, carried the lower part of the uterus with it, so as to prevent the dilatation of the os uteri by the head pressing it firmly against the sides of the pelvis, and the action of the uterus from being exerted on the cervix.

The great force of the uterus, acting on the body of the child, the Doctor conceives, might thus produce the separation of the circular portion. Mr. Scott, on his first visit, found the os uteri very thick and unyielding; and it is very likely, from the age of the lady, that the texture of it was morbidly firm, or in some degree scirrhous, so that in consequence of its not yielding to the pressure of the head, it was detached by the action of the uterus and abdominal muscles. This we think more likely to have been the case than the supposition of Dr. Merriman, that the dilation was prevented by the pressure of the cervix uteri against the sides of the pelvis, for the latter occurrence is very common, but no instance of separation of the os uteri, is to be found on record, and, so far as we can learn, it never ocurred in this country.

In consequence of the very judicious management of the patient by Mr. Scott, she and her child are now living, in the full enjoyment of health. Mr. Scott, after her delivery, by attending to the general health, by keeping down nervous irritation, preventing fever, attending to the state of the bowels and sanguiferous system, localized the mischief, the consequence of which was, the surface of the lacerated part healed. Had the treatment lately recommended by some wild theorists, that of administering spirit of turpentine, to prevent or allay puerperal fever (symptoms of which had appeared), or employing friction, during labour, to excite the action of the womb, or administering large doses of a cathartic, according to the Hamiltonian system, been adopted, the result would have been very different. In such a formidable case, it is indeed fortunate for the patient to fall under the care of a practitioner of experience, minute observation, and sober judgment.

HEAD-ACHE.—Sirs,—I was pleased with Mr. Farmer's dissertation on the causes, symptoms, and treatment, of the different species of head-ache, which he has observed in the course of his practice. There are other species far from being uncommon in this country, which he has not noticed, and to which, through the medium of your very valuable publication, I beg to direct his attention. He has noticed the species arising from over-distention of the blood-vessels of the brain, but in this species it is of consequence to determine whether the plethora be local or general. If local, which is very common in elderly people, I conceive general, or even topical bleeding, should be employed with great

caution. The remedies here should be such as are calculated to promote the circulation in the extremities and abdominal viscera, as the compound colocynth pill, to empty the bowels; and to produce a determination of blood to the rectum, friction of the extremities, cold water to the head, once or twice a day. In this species of head-ache (which arises, I am persuaded, as intimated by you, from a loaded state of the sinuses of the brain which convey venous blood from that organ) I have found the muriated tincture of iron, in the dose of ten drops, two or three times a day, very efficacious, probably by promoting the circulation of the blood in the extremities, the temperature of which it never fails to increase. When the plethora is general this remedy is improper.

The species, noticed by Mr. Farmer, are not unfrequently blended, or occur together; for instance, rheumatic irritation about the head in a plethoric habit will produce a morbid determination of blood to the brain, as will also nervous irritation; indeed, in cases of apoplexy and of inflammation of the brain, we generally find, on inquiry, that the patient had been complaining a few days previously, of the attacks of nervous head-ache.

The species of head-ache to which I am desirous to direct Mr. Farmer's attention, are, firstly, head-ache from *depletion*. This species of head-ache often follows a considerable loss of blood. The symptoms are very similar to the species of head-ache arising from an opposite cause, viz. plethora, as giddiness, drowsiness, &c. It is, however, relieved by those positions of the body which facilitate the circulation to the brain, as lying down, stooping, wine, brandy, &c.

I have at this time a patient afflicted with this species of head-ache, to a most distressing degree, who experiences relief on placing his head much lower than his chest. The plethoric head-ache is increased by this practice.

The other species are the syphilitic and scrofulous, both of which are common. The seat of these diseases is the dura mater, the external membrane of the skull-bone, and the bone itself. I have at this time two cases of each under my care, which ceased only after considerable exfoliation of the frontal and parietal bones. The hemlock and bark afforded considerable relief in the latter, and the oxymuriate of mercury, with hemlock and sarsaparilla, in the former.

With thanks to Mr. Farmer, for his practical Treatise on Head-ache, I beg to subscribe myself your very sincere friend,

London, Sept. 28, 1821. J. P.

DROPSY.—A Clergyman, aged about thirty-two, afflicted with general dropsy, came to London for medical advice. He stated that he had been under the care of a physician of some eminence in the county in which he resided, who had adopted the new mode of treating dropsy by copious bleeding. After each abstraction of blood (never less than sixteen ounces) he found the disease to advance, and his strength considerably to decline. Finding his doctors determined to persevere in their favourite mode of treatment, he resolved to quit the place. When he arrived in town, so general was the effusion of serum, that even the whole of the head was œdematous. Cordial tonics and oxygene were administered with the view of increasing his strength, but he was too much reduced. He continued rapidly to sink, and in three

days discharged his debt to nature, with the resignation and fortitude of a true Christian. On opening his body, no appearance of organic disease was discovered, the viscera of the chest and abdomen were perfectly healthy. There was in each cavity a very considerable collection of serum, and that in the former evidently terminated his life. The healthy state of the viscera, and the effects of bleeding, satisfactorily prove, that the life of this unfortunate man was sacrificed to a new theory of the cause of dropsy.

We have also met with a case of organic disease of the colon, in a delicate lady, in which the Hamiltonian system of purging destroyed life in the course of six days. The physician insisted on her taking a powerful cathartic every morning, for the purpose, as he said, of removing offensive matter lodged in the intestines.

In organic affections of the colon and of the rectum, the Hamiltonian system is very likely to accelerate death; and when long continued, (a fashion with many physicians) has no doubt produced irreparable mischief. We have met with many patients who attributed the origin of serious structural disease of the intestines to this practice.

SCIRRHUS AND CANCER.—We have received from three eminent surgeons several cases of scirrhous enlargement of the neck of the uterus, of long standing, (two of which had advanced to the stage termed open cancer), in which the continued use of the blue pill, combined with the extract of hemlock, and other remedies which the general state of the body indicated, proved completely successful in subduing the disease. In one case the patient took a composition of the blue pill and hemlock six months before she experienced much relief, and to remove the hardness and tumefaction entirely, she persevered in the use of the remedy 18 months. The hemlock has been, and still is, a favourite remedy with many physicians in this disease; but it only allays morbid irritation, and by so doing, it certainly greatly tends to check the progress of scirrhus to ulceration, and the progress of the ulcerative process, when it has taken place. Mercury, by increasing the action of the absorbents of the part, is a most important addition, but it should be introduced into the system with great caution. In those cases in which it has been most successful, the gums were never so much affected as to be tender, or the system disturbed, so as to produce the slightest fever. Whenever its operation on the salivary glands was apparent, the remedy was discontinued for a few days. It is but too common for patients and even practitioners to become tired of a remedy when it does not afford essential benefit in a few weeks, but every practitioner who is acquainted with the nature of a scirrhous tumour, must be aware that to reduce it, or restore the parts to health, the absorbents must be kept in action for a considerable time by the operation of mercury. The accumulation is of such a firm texture, that its removal by the absorbent vessels must be necessarily tedious, and indeed, before they are brought into play, its effects must be kept up some weeks. The cause of the accumulation being irritation, the hemlock, or any other vegetable anodyne, is a very valuable adjunct to mercury, but without mercury they can act only as a palliative. In a plethoric habit, bleeding is also a powerful auxiliary, and in a leucophlegmatic, or languid constitution, steel will be proper. In our next number we intend to give some interesting cases of this disease, and the treatment which was adopted in each case.

WATERY HEAD.—Sir Gilbert Blane, Bart. Physician to His Majesty, &c. &c. &c. has found mechanical compression of the head to prove efficacious, both in preventing and curing certain cases of this formidable disease. Sir Gilbert, in reflecting on the circumstances which characterize the history and description of watery head; some of the chief of which are, that it is very seldom met with but in very early life, and most commonly in infancy, before the bones of the scull are complete;—that there is, in most cases, a preternatural size of the head; and that it is usually attended with a ricketty state of the bones, and a general scrofulous flaccidity of the soft parts, and runs in particular families:—it occurred to him, that the distention of the head, and the spaces between the bones of the scull, termed fontanels, are owing to a want of firmness, and due resistance in the bony compages of the scull, which consequently yield to that effort of pressure, which the brain, in its growth, produces. In reasoning further on the subject, it appeared to him conformable to some of the most approved principles of physiology, that, as there is a certain degree of tension and pressure necessary to the sound condition and action of parts, the withdrawing of this, by inviting afflux and congestion, produces serous effusion; and, for the like reason, there may be a deficiency of that interstitial absorption, upon which the healthy state of the brain, and all other parts of the living frame, depends.

It was reflections of this kind, whether well or ill founded, which some time ago suggested to Sir Gilbert, that mechanical compression of the head might be of use in the cure of watery head, and which induced him to make trial of it, in a case which occurred about four months ago, by a child, aged thirteen months, with a head of a preternatural size, almost from birth, and the fontanels preternaturally large. The conformation of the child was otherwise defective; but there was a visible curvature of the spine, indicating a ricketty habit. He had, for several months, been subject to drowsiness; and latterly, it was evident, from his screaming, and from raising his hand to his head, that there were occasional paroxysms of head-ache. There had also been, for some time past, a dilatation of the pupils. The functions of the bowels were not so much disordered, as is generally the case in this disease, which was still in an unformed state.

Sir Gilbert directed the head to be swathed with a roller, as tight as could be done, without producing pain or uneasiness. The only other remedies were three leeches, applied once only to the temples and forehead, and a purge (every two days) of rhubarb, and sulphate of potass. Mercury was not used in any form. An immediate amendment took place, which continued; so that all complaint was removed in less than three months, except the curvature of the spine; and he has continued well till now, that is, for eighteen months.

"The only other case," says Sir Gilbert, "which has since occurred in my practice, has been one that did not afford so fair a field for the trial. The subject was a child of three years of age, with a head preternaturally large, and the fontanels not closed.

No symptoms of watery head had appeared, but only a state of general delicacy. The swathing had apparently been of benefit, and may probably prevent a disorder, naturally to be expected from such a conformation."

Before he published his opinions, thinking it likely that a view of the subject, seemingly so simple and obvious, might have occurred to others, and deeming it possible that similar trials might have been made, and the practice exploded, from being found unsuccessful; Sir Gilbert consulted all the works he could meet with, but without finding any intimation of the theory or treatment here described. He therefore felt it his duty, even at this early period of his experience, to suggest the trial of it to others. He has elsewhere remarked, that one of the great purposes of the general and early diffusion of the valuable information contained in periodical works, is to offer suggestions of this nature, in order that they may undergo either a speedy confirmation or refutation, the experience of one individual being too limited to afford that satisfactory induction which medical truth demands, or too protracted for the decision of questions which, for the good of mankind, ought to be as prompt as possible.

"It is necessary," observes Sir Gilbert, "to caution practitioners against too active an use of this method in recent and acute cases, where there is inflammatory affection, and therefore such a degree of tenderness, as may make compression painful and prejudicial. Common discretion will suggest the times, circumstances, and degrees, in which this practice is admissible. I would by no means rest the expediency of making further trials of this, on the theoretical views of others, which, being adverse to those I have advanced, may produce a reluctance on the part of some practitioners, to pay attention to what is here recommended."

"The cause of this disease," proceeds Sir Gilbert, "has been referred by some to a depraved state of digestion, indicated by distended abdomen, and a vitiated state of the feculent matter, indicating a depraved action of the intestines, mesentery, and other chylopoietic viscera. But such disorders occur in innumerable instances, without producing watery head, though it is easily conceivable how such a state of bowels may exasperate this disease, as well as all others of a ricketty or scrofulous nature, by producing depraved digestion, and scanty nutrition.

"Other theorists are fond of representing this disease as proceeding, in most instances, from an inflammatory affection of the brain. There can be no doubt of such action frequently taking place here; but I believe there are few instances of the acute state coming on without a predisposition, consisting in an enlarged head, and spacious fontanels. And it has been plausibly maintained by some, that a relaxed state of vessels, in particular parts, is the main cause of inflammation. At all events, as it is found to run in families, this is a clear proof that it is a disease proceeding from a particular constitution, and not depending on accidental causes. One of the cases here related having strong symptoms of predisposition, which were successfully combated, strongly proves and illustrates this, and

affords a useful practical hint to parents, and medical attendants. I knew a family, of the highest rank and respectability, who lost the whole of their young family by this disease, and died, some years ago, without heirs, of their own body, to their titles and estates. Some of these children would probably have been saved, had the preventive measures here stated been then known." But leaving all theoretical discussions out of the question, it is Sir Gilbert's wish merely to submit what he has said as a suggestion to others, who may be induced to make trial of it, and report the result to the public. He has only further to suggest, that in case the utility of this practice should be confirmed by farther experience, it ought to be resorted to as a preventive, as well as curative treatment, and applied whenever infants are perceived to have the head and fontanels preternaturally large, without waiting its alarming manifestation, by symptoms of hydrocephalus—symptoms which, he thinks, by this measure, may be happily averted."

Since the preceding observations were written, (about fourteen months ago) several cases have occurred to Sir Gilbert, and some of his friends, in which the practice has proved very beneficial. It ought to be understood (says he), the treatment is not applicable to the acute state of the disease, but either to those indications of predisposition, consisting in a large head, a tardy closing of the fontanels, dilated pupils, and ricketty disposition, or to cases in which the acute stage has been subdued by evacuations and mercury, and where there is still a prospect of a fatal termination, or of a protracted or imperfect cure. Both the subjects, whose cases are detailed, have remained free from the disease eighteen months.

A popular writer, of some celebrity, attributes the frequency of watery head, and convulsive fits, to the practice of nurses, in attempting to "close the bones of the head of infants, when loose, or the fontanels very open." He contends that, by compressing the brain, such a degree of irritation is often produced in the substance of the brain, and in the pia-mater, as to occasion convulsions, and sometimes inflammatory action in the latter, which terminates in an effusion of serum in the ventricles, constituting the disease termed watery head. By compressing the branches of the temporal arteries, &c. the afflux of blood to the brain, by the internal carotid arteries, is increased, the consequence of which may be, inflammatory action or effusion, which is likely to terminate in watery head. The treatment recommended by Sir Gilbert should therefore be adopted with great caution, and more with the view of supporting the bones, than to produce compression of the brain. We have met with cases of convulsive fits, which apparently arose from the practice of nurses, of swathing the head, with a view of closing the bones, and which did not recur on leaving off the swathe.

GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.—Dr. Uwins has published five well-marked cases of gout and rheumatism, to prove the power of the colchicum-seed wine, in effecting a speedy cure of these diseases. The cases being very similar, we select the two first:—

"A stout robust man, thirty-three years of age, by trade a taylor, in poor circumstances, and usually afflicted with gout in one or

both feet, twice or thrice in the year, each fit continuing upon him from three to five weeks, was lately seized in the night, subsequently to a journey on foot of thirty-six miles, with an acute, and almost intolerable pain in the left heel and leg, which, in a few hours, extended itself with nearly equal severity to the left side.

"In the morning, the left foot was much inflamed and swelled, and the sensation of this part of the body was so exquisite, that the weight of the bed-clothes, or the agitation of the room, occasioned by any person walking across it, could scarcely be borne.

"In the evening he became delirious; and such was the severity and continuance of the pain, that he remained in a state of delirium three successive days and nights, without a moment's sleep; sometimes calling out most vociferously, at other times tolerably quiet, but holding conversation, as it were, with himself. In this lamentable situation, he was advised to take forty drops of the colchicum-seed wine, at eleven o'clock in the morning, and a tea-spoonful at bed-time, in a wine-glass of cold water. In two hours, by the first dose of this medicine, the pain was evidently lessened; by the second dose, he slept four hours, and in the morning was free from delirium, and greatly relieved from pain. By a continuance in this plan four days, living merely on a little tea, weak mutton broth, and a small quantity of toasted bread, he was wholly free from pain, and from any swelling and inflammation in the foot; and after a perseverance in the medicine four days longer, the poor man was enabled to return to his business, and to walk a mile with as much ease and comfort as he could have done previously to the attack, from which he had so severely suffered.

"A medical man, fifty years of age, of a good constitution, and temperate habits, in general practice in the country, and accustomed to much exercise, especially on horseback, has been subject annually, for several years, to one or more fits of the gout, which has deprived him of following his professional duties, sometimes for a month, seldom less than a fortnight.

"In 1820, he experienced a most severe attack in his right foot, which he considered as the prelude to a long confinement to his house; but anxious to visit, nine miles distant, a sick friend, who was equally desirous of seeing him, he had recourse to a tea-spoonful and a half of the colchicum-seed wine, in peppermint-water. In two hours, the gouty paroxysm was so wholly subdued, that he mounted his horse, visited his patient, and returned home, without feeling the slightest inconvenience, either from his complaint or the journey, and since that period he has enjoyed excellent health."

Of the specific virtues of the colchicum seeds, in the cure of gout, rheumatism, and especially in a combination of those diseases, termed rheumatic gout, we continue to receive the most favourable reports, from different parts of the country. A lady, residing in Deptford, states, that she had been confined to her room for many weeks, with a most painful swelling of the joints of the lower extremities, and of the feet, which her medical attendant termed rheumatic gout. Having been attended by him for upwards of a month, without deriving any essential benefit from his treatment, she had

recourse to the alcaline tincture of the colchicum seeds, four doses of which so effectually subdued the disease, that in two days she was able to walk about the house, without experiencing any pain or inconvenience. A clergyman, in Hampshire, who had for many years suffered exceedingly from rheumatic gout, states, that the tincture not only removed every symptom of the disease, but rendered his intellectual faculties more capable of performing their functions.

THE PRUSSIC ACID.—The very favourable reports of this acid in cases of pulmonary consumption, hooping-cough and spasms, which have appeared in the foreign Journals, and in several works in this country, induced Dr. Macleod, Physician to the Westminster General Dispensary, to give it a trial, on an extensive scale, in cases of consumption of the lungs, and chronic inflammation of the ramifications of the wind-pipe (termed bronchia) in elderly people. The result of sixty cases satisfied him, that this medicine had either been extolled above its deserts, or that its real powers were not rightly understood; and he discontinued its exhibition, partly because he was unable to discover any certain indication which it was capable of fulfilling, and partly because the general relief afforded by it in the sixty cases was inferior to what had been produced by more common remedies. The apprehensions of deleterious effects entertained by some, and noticed by several who have written on the subject, appear to him ill founded; at least, out of above 100 cases, in which he gave, or had seen others give, the acid, it never produced serious inconvenience except once, and, even then the effect was not alarming. In complaints of a spasmodic nature, such as hooping-cough, he believes this acid to be of use; but the only class of cases which he feels any real confidence in its exhibition, is indigestion, attended with much pain in the stomach, or anomalous feelings about the heart; "Indeed," says the Doctor, "I have known it afford very decided relief in *structural* affections of this organ, a circumstance first forced upon my attention, by seeing it prescribed to a patient under my care at the Westminster Dispensary, in which instance the freedom from suffering was complete and permanent, that it lasted till the patient's death, which took place after its exhibition." On examining the heart with his friend Dr. Richard Harrison, he found it enlarged and flabby, with thickening of the central valves, and the coronary arteries to contain a *considerable* quantity of air. The more particular object, however, of the present short communication is, to notice an effect of this medicine, which, says the Doctor, "so far that I know, has not been remarked by any writers on this subject, viz. ulceration of the gums with salivation." Of this he has seen three instances: in the first it was slight; and not being aware of this peculiar property of the acid, he regarded it as proceeding from some other cause. The second instance occurred in a man of the name of Smith; his attention being excited by the occurrence of the same effect in two individuals during the use of the acid, he was resolved to ascertain how far it was to be regarded as the cause.

Smith had taken, during a fortnight, from six to eight tablespoonsful, daily, of the following mixture: Take of the Prussic acid,

ten drops; distilled water, eight ounces; mix. At the end of this time, the ulceration of the gums, which had been gradually coming on, was considerable, and attended with some salivation. The Prussic acid was discontinued, and alum-wash was ordered, and the gums gradually got well. About three months after this, his mouth having been well for some weeks, he again prescribed the same mixture, and the same effects were again produced.

A young woman, in Phœnix-street, a patient at the Westminster General Dispensary, had the above mixture ordered, of which she took three table-spoonsful, three times a day, for a fortnight; when, on visiting her after a lapse of several days, he found the gums affected with severe ulceration, extending to the inside of the left cheek, accompanied by salivation and considerable swelling. The ulcerations were very difficult to heal, and the soreness of the mouth was altogether exceedingly distressing. After it had been well for about three months, he again ordered a mixture, containing the same quantity of acid as before. The dose was rapidly increased to four table-spoonsful four times a day, and at the end of a week, the mouth had again become affected. The gums were swelled, inflamed, and slightly ulcerated, but got well more speedily than before."

Dr. Macleod conceives that the above cases warrant the conclusion, that the Prussic acid has the property of inducing, in some constitutions, an effect upon the mouth, analogous to that resulting from the use of mercury. But there seems to be this difference, that the ulceration of the gums is greater in proportion to the degree of salivation; and he believes the affection to be more difficult of cure; and the occurrence of this effect, he does not regard as favourable. In the former of the two instances related, it was exhibited for a pectoral affection, as recommended by Dr. Granville: in the latter, it was given for disease of the digestive organs, as recommended by Dr. Elliotson; in neither case did the medicine prove successful.

Mr. Cooper informs us, that he had administered the Prussic acid in the dose of one drop, three times a day, in a case of spasmodic asthma, with the most decided benefit, after other antispasmodic medicines had failed. In a case of pulmonary consumption, near Brentford, half a drop produced convulsions of the whole muscular system. The patient (a female) was about twenty-four years of age, and extremely nervous. In hooping-cough, particularly the first stage of it, this acid has proved more beneficial than in any other disease; in some instances having cured it in three days. To the nose of a cat, Mr. William Reece applied about one drop of the Prussic acid, the effect of which was instantaneous death: and a scientific chemist of the city informs us, that he applied a drop to the nose of a large mastiff dog, in perfect health, and as soon as it touched the skin, the animal fell down, and died without a struggle. The Prussic acid is therefore a most potent medicine; and as it is become a favourite remedy with many physicians, it behoves the College of Physicians, as the *medical* branch of the legislature, to publish a formula for making it, that it may be kept by apothecaries and

chemists of the same strength. The acid we have procured at Apothecaries' Hall, and of several chemists, we have found to differ very considerably in strength; indeed, we have found none of them good. The only method of making it of an equal strength is, by decomposing the prussiate of potass by the dilute sulphuric acid, and drawing off, by distillation, a certain quantity. The acid thus prepared at the Medical Hall, in Piccadilly, will be found much superior to that sold at Apothecaries' Hall, or by any chemist in England.

OPIUM.—The white poppy has been lately so successfully cultivated in different parts of this country, particularly in Buckinghamshire, that the plant is not only as large and healthy, but as productive of the white juice, as it is in Turkey; and the juice, on being reduced to the consistency of an extract, by gentle evaporation, is much stronger than the Turkey opium, in consequence of its being more pure. The Turkey opium is indeed generally so impure, that it seldom affords more than three-forths of pure extract; and, during the process of evaporation, after being dissolved in proof spirit, and filtered, the volatile and active parts of it are so far dissipated or injured by heat, that no advantage is gained by the process; for although deprived of its impurities, which are innocent, it does not act so powerfully as the impure. The English opium is perfectly pure, and one grain of it is equal to a grain and a half of the Turkey opium, and to two grains of the purified Turkey opium. A correspondent informs us, that it produces more refreshing sleep than the Turkey opium, and that he has not met with an instance of the head-ache, or nervous restlessness, after its application, which generally follows the use of Turkey opium. The trials we have given it are too few to justify our speaking decidedly on this point—the result of our experience is, however, much in its favour.

From some experiments upon *narcotine*, one of the immediate principles of opium, which have been instituted, by Dr. Magendie, of Paris, this celebrated physiologist thinks it probable, that the very variable effects of opium are owing to the presence of the opposite principles which enter into its composition. This opinion acquires great probability, from the circumstance, that persons who take morphium, experience none of those exciting properties, which the aqueous extract of the shops, containing both morphium and narcotine, produces in them.

Hence it appears, from all the processes employed for the preparation of extract of opium, the best is that by which the separation of the narcotine is effected. The method which, with this view, has been proposed by Mr. Robiquet, is strongly recommended to the notice of apothecaries; for it very well accomplishes the proposed object, and the extract which it furnishes has already been productive of excellent effects. It consists in macerating, in cold water, the opium, cut into small pieces, as in making the aqueous extract. The liquid, when filtered, is evaporated to the consistence of a thick syrup, and the extract repeatedly agitated with ether, in a suitable vessel. The ethereal tincture is then decanted, and submitted to distillation, in order to separate the ether. The operation is repeated, as long as crystals of narcotine, resulting from it, are

obtained. When the ether no longer acts, the solution of opium is evaporated, and the extracts prepared. As the same ether may again be employed in the preparation of extract, the operation is not so expensive as it might, at first sight, appear. The ingenious process of Mr. Robiquet, for the preparation of this extract, is much superior to those proposed by Baume, and Nermaun; in the former of which, the opium is submitted to a six months' ebullition, in the latter, to fermentation for the period of eight months.

VEGETABLE FOOD.—A Dr. Gaspard has published an interesting article on the effects of vegetable diet, to prove the absurdity of the opinions of Dr. Lambe, and others, that man is a verbivorous animal. The facts the doctor relates are the results of his observations, during the distressing famine, which desolated certain parts of France, in the year 1817. In consequence of the incessant rains of 1816, having destroyed or prevented the maturation of almost the whole of the grain, sown in the departments of Ain, Jura, Doubs, &c. &c., these provinces were visited with a famine, during the first six months of 1817. In the months of January, February, and March, the miserable inhabitants were enabled to supply their wants, though indifferently, either by living on potatoes, or bread made of oats, and on other unwholesome aliments, or by begging. But at last, all recourses being expended, and every article of living having got to an enormous and unprecedented price, it was not unusual to see the country, during the three months of April, May, and June, covered with miserable beings, who disputed, as it were, the common pasturage with the beasts of the field. Hunger reduced them, at that time, to live on nothing but herbaceous vegetables, as salsifis, wild sorrel, nettles, patience, succory, thistles, the tops of French beans, the sprigs of young trees, &c. These herbs were minced, and boiled into a sort of *bouillie*, or *pulp*, in the same manner as spinach is prepared for the table. But when they become too hard, they expressed a thick juice from them, by straining them through a piece of fine linen; and every one, according to his means, used these pulps, or juices, either alone, or mixed with a little coarse meal.

The uniform result of a regimen, consisting solely of herbs, and continued for such a long time, was a general tendency to dropsy, or universal anasarca of the whole cellular membrane, without jaundice, or any organic affection of the liver, or of any abdominal viscera. Many women experienced an interruption of the catamenia during the use of these herbs; and the author is satisfied, from a reference to the registers of births, in several of the communes which suffered from the famine, or in which these herbs were used to a great extent, that the number of conceptions was less, by more than one half, during the three calamitous months of that year, than during the same months of the years preceding and following.

This state of dropsical tendency subsisted during the whole time of the use of this diet, even during the heat of summer; and did not disappear, until the return of aliments more natural to man, after the harvest of 1817. Some retained for months, and even years, a degree of enlargement of the abdomen, swelling of the face, and

dropsical enlargement of the legs and feet. But, unfortunately, all did not escape on these terms; for many of those, who were less vigorous, or who lived solely on these unwholesome aliments, or who went about to beg, sunk under this unusual means of living. Some of them fell, from time to time, of inanition, along the highways; and on opening the bodies of six of these unfortunate creatures, the stomach and intestines were found extremely contracted, and containing the remains of vegetables. Others perished, not of hunger, but of a kind of indigestion, in consequence of eating voraciously of barley-bread, when the harvest came on.

In other respects, this year was healthy, and there was no other prevailing disease. From the similarity of results, observed in all ages, and in different climates, M. Gaspard thinks, that we may conclude with safety, that man is not herbivorous. If it is asked, how it is that quadrupeds draw so much substantial nourishment from herbaceous vegetables, while man can only extract a watery juice, devoid of all nutritious qualities? the answer is easy—all depends on the difference in the digestive powers. But this is only getting rid of the difficulty, without solving it.

People who are brought up on vegetable food, generally enjoy a good state of health; and, in some countries, as in Ireland and Scotland, possess great muscular power. They are also less liable to inflammatory diseases than those who take much animal food; but when they are afflicted with inflammation or fever, it advances with greater rapidity, and the depleting treatment cannot be carried to the extent, or with the same advantage, as in a person who lives on meat, or a mixture of meat and vegetables. In cases of compound fractures, and of inflammation from injuries, they are more liable to mortification. In children, who had lived entirely on vegetables, we have seen very serious sloughing from cow-pox inoculation; and in one instance, it was so extensive as to destroy life. Dr. Lambe supposes, that scrofula and cancer arise from the use of animal food; and contends, that those diseases may be cured by abstaining from meat, and fermented liquor. In a person who avoids a stimulating diet, a constitutional disease is very likely to remain dormant; but when scrofula does take place, its ravages are greater; and as to cancer, the subject of the most formidable we ever met with, had lived from her infancy on vegetables, and never took a fermented liquor. It is worthy of notice, that those who live on animal food chiefly, are most free from pulmonary consumption. The case is, we are too apt to attribute bad effects to a diet, which arose only from abuse of it, or some peculiarity of the constitution.

To those who are subject to inflammatory complaints, and who take little exercise, a vegetable diet may prove beneficial; but to those of an opposite habit it would prove injurious. Animals derive their substance from the vegetable kingdom; and, on chemical examination, there does not appear to be any difference between the chyle produced from animal food, and from vegetables. A proper admixture of them, taken in moderation, evidently agrees best with

the stomach; and ample experience has proved it to be the most efficacious in supporting the strength and health of the body.

QUACKERY.—On this dangerous traffic, Mr. Shipman makes the following observations, in his Familiar Treatise on Disorders of the Stomach:—

"The system of quackery, so much practised, and I am sorry to add, so much encouraged in this metropolis, recommending a particular composition for every disorder, cannot be too much deprecated; and the encouragement afforded them appears more extraordinary, when we consider that the present perfection of medical science exceeds that of any other age, the profession abounding with members of proved merit: that any of them should be placed on a footing with the venders of nostrums is surprising; this must receive the censure of every man, who wishes well to the community, and his profession; would the legislative body empower the college with authority to prevent such innovations to health and morality, they would be doing an essential service to society."

One, and indeed the principal condition of the charter, granted to the College of Physicians, is, the suppression of Quackery; but it appears to us, that the College suppose that the intention of the Legislature was to secure to them the fee trade. About ten years ago, the censors of the College summoned two or three advertisers of nostrums, who styled themselves doctors; but instead of making any inquiry respecting the composition of their nostrums, they only required of them to drop the title of doctor, and not to take fees!! When the duty on nostrums was proposed by the ministers, it met with no opposition, from a general feeling, in both Houses, that the traffic was disgraceful to the country. If the ministers proposed the duty, from a conviction that the trade was injurious to *the public*, how far more creditable would it have been to *them*, to have subjected it to some restraint, so as to protect the public against specious pretensions of the most daring of the tribe. If, on the contrary, the trade is not injurious, it was cruel to impose a duty on the articles, because they are purchased principally by the lower classes. It is worthy of notice, that the Legislature, when they proposed a duty on quack medicines, did not apply to *their* College of Physicians, as they term the body, for their opinion of the propriety of the measure, agreeably to their uniform custom, when a subject connected with medicine was to be discussed in the legislative assemblies. After the act passed, the College of Physicians supposed that they could not interfere with the trade, the venders being protected by a licence; and the proprietors of nostrums, considering themselves protected "by the Legislature," boldly advertised their infallible remedies, under royal patronage; and the sale of nostrums, instead of being checked, was thereby considerably increased.

The epithet of Quack has of late years been so indiscriminately applied to every class of practitioners, that we are desirous to see a *modern* definition of it. The College of Physicians consider themselves, by virtue of their obsolete charter, at the head of the pro-

fession; and, by their conduct to the Graduates of the Scotch Universities, the only regular physicians. If a surgeon, or surgeon-apothecary, obtains an honorary degree, he is pronounced by the College an irregular man, thereby inferring what they dare not assert, that he is a quack. When Sir Walter Farquhar practised as a surgeon and apothecary, he was deemed, by the leading physicians of the day, a very clever practitioner. His connection being highly respectable, and his practice extensive, it was of course in his power to serve a physician. All were desirous to secure his friendship; but when he obtained an honorary degree, he was then an irregular man, and they resolved not to meet him in consultation. This opposition, however, tended to increase his practice; and when his opponents found that they could not prejudice his connection against him, they agreed to meet him in consultation, in order that they might participate with him in the fee trade. Now of the two diplomas, is the honorary one of a Scotch University, or the residentiary one of Oxford or Cambridge, the most honourable? An honorary one is granted to a gentleman, who has had a proper *medical* education, and has seen practice, on producing testimonials of two respectable physicians to that effect, as well as of having had a classical education, and being a man of moral deportment. At Oxford and Cambridge, a candidate for the degree of M. D. undergoes no examination as to his *medical* knowledge. After taking a Bachelor's degree, and keeping a certain number of terms, although he never applied his mind to medicine, he claims, as a matter of right, a doctor's degree in medicine; and it is a well-known fact, that many clergymen take this degree because it entitles them to some privileges. Hence at these Universities, they make choice of degrees as old women do petticoats, taking that which is likely to prove most useful or ornamental. It is true that the Scotch Universities have granted honorary diplomas to men who have received no education, not being able even to write their own names; but in those instances, which are very few, the Universities were imposed upon, by certificates of competency to exercise the art, from physicians of great eminence in London, to whom a considerable sum was given. Were then the Scotch Universities to be censured, or the physicians who signed the testimonials? When the universities were acquainted with the impositions that had been practised on them, it was their duty to have prosecuted the impostors, and to have struck the names of the *learned gentlemen*, to whom they had granted honorary degrees, in consequence of false certificates, from the list of their members. If a Scotch University had so far sanctioned imposture, by granting an honorary diploma to a person unqualified to practise as a physician, it was the duty of the College of Physicians to remonstrate with them, on the impropriety of their conduct, and to represent the same to the legislature; but instead of this, they say to the man, "You shall not practise physic within our jurisdiction, that is, within seven miles of London; if you go beyond our limits, we will not interfere with your practice"!! Nay, if the said impostor should practise as an apothecary within

their jurisdiction, he would not be molested; but as soon as he interferes with the fee trade, he becomes a dangerous man, and he is immediately stigmatized as a quack.

If a practitioner publishes a work on Domestic Medicine, or attempts to enable the public to form an opinion of the qualification of certain members of the college to exercise the healing art, he is pronounced a most dangerous quack; but when one of them publishes a book, he gives it a title, which is likely to induce the afflicted with the disease on which it treats, to purchase it. In fact, the works which have issued from this quarter, contain no original matter of the smallest utility, their sole objects being to give publicity to their names. Is there a medical man, not belonging to the College, who will say that Dr. Bree, Dr. Stone, or Dr. Pemberton, published their books for the information of the medical profession? If they did, it must appear very evident that they were not acquainted with the practical knowledge of diseases which surgeon-apothecaries possess, or of the state of medical science in Edinburgh, and at the London hospitals. If a surgeon publishes a work on Constitutional Diseases, they declare him to be out of his province. This was said of Abernethy, when his work on the Chylopoietic Viscera appeared. It was in their opinion a species of quackery, because it was as much intended for popular as professional perusal. The division of practitioners into physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, may be politic; it is not, however, consistent with practice, or the *proper* education of a medical gentleman, and to the public is most oppressive; indeed, to many families it has proved ruinous. To talk of the province of the physician is absolute nonsense; where, we would ask, does it begin or end? All internal and constitutional diseases are claimed by the physician. Scrofulous disease of *the liver*, lungs, or any other viscus, belongs to a physician; *but when the* disease takes place in an extremity or external part of the trunk, it then belongs to the surgeon!!! Now, as surgeons are better acquainted with anatomy and organic diseases than physicians, a man of common sense would suppose that they were also better acquainted with internal diseases. The surgeons of the present day are well acquainted with all the departments of medicine; and the legislature, by authorising the Society of apothecaries to grant licences to those whom they find to be acquainted with the different branches of medicine, to exercise the healing art in all cases of disease, must have been aware, that such practitioners are entitled to the implicit confidence of patients. The licence authorises them to exercise their profession within the jurisdiction of the College of Physicians. The College have no control over them; and as the College grant a licence to a Graduate of the Scotch University, to practise only in common cases of disease, the licensed surgeon-apothecary takes precedence of him, inasmuch as he is authorised by the legislature to undertake the treatment of the most intricate cases. He has as much right to put his initials to a prescription, as the man who possesses a doctor's degree, and also to take a fee. A diploma does not make a physician. His late Majesty observed

very emphatically to Mr. Pitt, when he solicited him to confer on his friend, a physician, the title of Baronet;—"Pitt, Pitt, I can certainly make him a Baronet, but neither I, nor a diploma, can make him a physician."

When certain members of the College complained of Mr. Abernethy having invaded their province, why did they not contrast his system with their own, and attempt to convince the public of the superiority of their mode of treating disease? The fact is, they have no system of medicine on which they all agree; indeed, so far from this being the case, they have broached doctrines diametrically opposite; and when they meet in consultation, there is always some difference of opinion, either with respect to the nature of the malady, or the treatment. One has asserted, that man is evidently a herbivorous animal; and another, that he is as evidently a carnivorous one. One supports the theory of the late Dr. Brown, and another, that of the late Dr. Cullen, which, in inflammatory cases, are in direct opposition. If such opposite opinions exist among this body, does it become them to arrogate to themselves a superior knowledge of medicine, or to insinuate, that those who do not belong to their body, are irregular physicians, or quacks? They are great ticklers for classical learning and legitimate medicine, i. e. a knowledge of the classical writers on medicine. Now the system of medicine of the antients, was chiefly surgical. Hippocrates was a better surgeon than a physician; and it was his acquaintance with surgery, that made him a bold, though judicious practitioner. With surgery, the members of the College do not pretend to be acquainted; and even if they were as well acquainted with it as Hippocrates, or any of the antient writers, can their works be guides for practice at the present time, when every branch of medicine has been greatly improved? The College, it seems, considers a knowledge of surgery to derogate from their dignity as *regular* physicians; and on this account they will not even grant a licence to a Graduate of a Scotch University, who is a member of the College of Surgeons!!! A candidate for a licence, therefore, in order to render himself eligible, must previously have his name erased from the list of surgeons, for which the College of Surgeons only charge twelve pounds, although he paid thirty for having it put on!!! This *liberality* is peculiar to the British nation. In every other country of Europe, such extortions are not allowed. In Paris, a medical education, with the diploma, amounts only to a few shillings. We shall continue this important subject in our next number.

PRACTICAL MEDICINE.—It is with great pleasure we announce the institution of a medical society in London, under the name of the Society of Practical Medicine of London, to co-operate with a society of the same name in Paris, to discuss the merits of all new medical publications, to collect medical facts, and impartially investigate the pretensions of authors and practitioners, to originality and utility. With a view of extending the advantages of the Society to professional gentlemen residing in the country, for the benefit of the human race, they resolved at their last meeting (held

in the theatre of Mr. Wright, Aurist and Lecturer on diseases of the ear, in Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, on Wednesday the 24th instant) to publish a Quarterly Journal of their transactions, which is to contain the opinion of the Society of all new books, foreign and domestic, original communications of real practical utility, &c. &c. The merits of the works they notice, and the communications, are to be previously discussed by the Society, so that, instead of the opinion of one man, that of the whole Society will be given. Instead of being a collection of fine sounding words, it will therefore be a work of sound practical matter; and we are glad to understand the expence to subscribers will not exceed four shillings and sixpence a quarter. They have elected a corresponding member in every county-town of the united kingdom; and many practitioners, esteemed for their love of science and practical knowledge, have already joined it, and sent copies of their publications. At the first meeting, Dr. Parkinson, a physician of great classical learning, and practically acquainted with medicine, was unanimously elected President, and Mr. Wright, the scientific Aurist, Honorary Secretary. We may venture to state, that there is not a medical man in this kingdom, who is not convinced of the necessity of such an institution, to check the rage of making new systems and theories, founded on the most ridiculous hypotheses,—systems and theories which have proved more destructive to this country than the sword. Those members of the profession, and other scientific characters, who may feel disposed to promote the object of this most praiseworthy undertaking, are solicited by the Society to send copies of their works and their names, if they wish to become corresponding members or subscribers to the quarterly work, to Mr. Wright, Henrietta-street. The first number of the Quarterly Journal, they have announced for publication on the first of January next.

MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—A society has lately been formed in Edinburgh, under the sanction of Dr. Duncan, Senior, on the model of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of London, and with the *same objects in view*. Our correspondent in Edinburgh informs us, that even those who have joined the society are ignorant of its *real* objects; "for (says he) I cannot discover any thing the Chiro-Medical Society of London has done to promote medical science, or to add to the respectability of the profession. They have been very industrious in making expensive books. One out of six may contain an interesting case; but such is their passion for book-making, that one would really suppose, by the nonsensical trash they publish, that one of their objects is to quiz the profession. The name of the society is ridiculous. Surgery is a branch of medicine; indeed, we may say it was the basis of antient medicine. A surgeon is as much a *medical* man as a physician or an apothecary. Medicine comprehends pathology, pharmacology, anatomy, physiology, surgery, chemistry, &c.; and therefore to denominate a society medico-chirurgical, is an absurdity. When such a contemptible scribbler as *Doctor* or Mr. James Johnson, employs such a compound word, being a mere dealer in words, it is not worthy of notice; but from a society of the leading medical characters

of Edinburgh, the first medical school in the known world, we expect to meet with classical precision.

If the Medico-Chirurgical Society of London, were to publish the remarks which are made on the papers, at the time their merits are discussed, their works would afford very valuable practical information; but by publishing them as they were received, without any comment, they put the reading part of the profession to an expense for no purpose, and lower themselves in the estimation of those readers, who are competent to judge of their merits; they, in fact, become useful only to the book trade. A foreigner, after reading the list of members of the Chiro-medical Society of London, observed, with a smile, expressive of feelings of indignation, "I think the Society of Esquires and Physicians would be a more applicable name, for more than three-fourths of the members are Esquires; and as to surgeons, I only discover six, and those are also styled Esquires."

PREPARED ESSENCE OF SENNA.—This article is prepared by a Mr. J. Selway, who styles himself chemist to no less a personage than the King of Great Britain. That the medicinal virtues of senna leaves are readily imparted to boiling water, every old woman (who is not superannuated or mad) is so well acquainted, as to smile at such a nostrum as a "*prepared essence of senna.*" Dr. Paris, however, the learned author of the Pharmacologia, (noticed in our present number) has given it a degree of importance, by noticing it in that work. To the article on senna, this learned gentleman has subjoined the following note or pithy advertisement:

"Selway's *prepared* Essence of Senna.—This is a *concentrated* infusion of senna, in combination with an alkali. It is *admirably* adapted for domestic use. *It is sold by Selway, New Cavendish-street, Portland Place.*"

Dr. Paris is a member of the body of Physicians, to whom the legislature granted a charter, for the suppression of quackery, and the promotion of medical science. Now, is there a medical man in this kingdom, who will say that this medicine is not a nostrum? Do the medicinal virtues of senna reside in an essence, or does the article contain any thing like what the profession would deem an essence? But the nostrum is not a *simple* essence, it is a "*prepared* essence"!!! The *prepared* essence, the *learned* physician, who also considers himself a chemist, asserts to be a *concentrated* infusion of senna!! Now an infusion is only to be concentrated by evaporation; and by this process, however carefully conducted, the essence, or essential properties of senna, would be dissipated!!! The Doctor condescends to notice in his Pharmacologia, the composition of other quack medicines; but he has not been so considerate as to observe where they, or any one of them, are sold; but the *prepared* essence of senna, being admirably adapted for domestic use, he no doubt thought it his duty to inform his readers where they may obtain it!! He has also stated the composition of other nostrums; but of the *prepared* essence, he merely states that it is "admirably adapted for domestic purposes, &c." To have given the composition of the article, or the method of *preparing* it, would not have been politic.

The Pharmacologia, he states, is published for the purpose of instructing "*inexperienced* practitioners." Can there be a man so inexperienced, or so ignorant of his profession, and the tricks of quackery, as not to understand the motive which induced the learned author to speak in such terms of commendation of this most contemptible nostrum? We shall not take the trouble to inquire who the real proprietor of the article is; it is enough for us to know that it is recommended by a Fellow of the College of Physicians; and knowing that, it is our duty, as Editors of a work, one of the principal objects of which is, the exposure of quackery, to acquaint the President with the bare-faced sanction of the traffic of one of its members, who will, no doubt, take *proper* notice of it. By introducing the article in a work professedly published for the instruction of members of the profession, we conceive the learned Doctor has offered the greatest insults to them within his power, an insult of which it behoves every member, who is desirous to support the respectability of his profession, to express his indignation.

Admirable as this composition is as a *domestic* medicine, the *proprietor*, or the preparer, recommends "an addition of Epsom salt, or any other saline purgative, to be added to it, where a more active medicine is required!!

The article being composed of vegetable products, we cannot ascertain, with precision, its composition. It has the odour of senna, the taste of senna, Spanish juice, and jalap; and, on distillation, it affords a very small proportion of alcohol. The latter is not in sufficient quantity to check fermentation; for, on opening the phial, some fixed air escaped, and the article effervesced. The alcohol might have been the product of such fermentation.

There is no article in it capable of correcting the *griping quality* of the senna. The following is, so far as chemistry, &c. enable us to form an opinion, the composition of this admirable *prepared essence of ginger:*—

Senna Tea, one ounce;
Spanish Juice, two scruples;
Tincture of Jalap, one drachm;
Liquor of Potass, one scruple.

The dose is two table-spoonsful.

This prepared essence of senna, so "admirably adapted" by Dr. Paris, or Mr. Selway, for domestic purposes, is very inferior to the common domestic preparation, termed senna tea, made by infusing the leaves, and coriander or carraway seeds, in boiling water!!

The contents of a bottle, retailed at 1*s.* 9*d.* cost the learned proprietor, or preparer, about two-pence halfpenny.

COLD CREAM.—The article sold under this name, is composed of white wax, almond oil, and rose-water, in the following proportions:

Take of Almond Oil, four ounces;
White Wax, one ounce;

To be gently melted, and well blended with four ounces of fresh rose-water, by trituration, in a warm marble mortar. The rose-water should be added very gradually.

THE

GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 72. To DECEMBER 1, 1821. Vol. VI.

OF THE LATE DR. EDWARD RIGBY OF NORWICH.

THIS distinguished physician and philanthropist was born at Chowbent, in Lancashire, on the 27th of December, 1747, and was fortunate in being placed early under the care of the celebrated philosopher, the late Dr. Priestley, from whose example he derived that love of philosophical research which formed one of the leading characteristics of his manly mind. At the age of 14, he was apprenticed to Mr. Martineau, an eminent surgeon of Norwich, and on the expiration of his term of indenture, he visited London, for the purpose of completing his medical education, under the tuition of the most eminent teachers, and by attending the practice of the first Hospitals; and after the customary residence here, he returned to Norwich, to exercise his profession.

While yet a very young man, his observation was strongly drawn towards some extraordinary facts that occurred in his midwifery practice, and he published a treatise on Uterine Hæmorrhage—a work which excited considerable attention, and though condemned by the late Dr. Denman, then at the head of that particular branch of practice, has stood the test of time, having passed through five editions, been translated into French and German, and is now in universal estimation amongst medical men.

Dr. Rigby was gifted by nature with a fine person, and an amenity of disposition and manners, which aiding his acute intellect, unwearied assiduity, and extensive knowledge and skill, soon introduced him into the first rank of practice, and while his services were sought by the opulent and the middle orders of society, his kindness of heart and his earnest desire of assisting his fellow creatures and augmenting his own acquirements, led him into the hovels of the poor, whensoever he was solicited. It was in his nature to bring his whole mind into action upon all occasions, and thus, while he visited in his professional capacity, his cheerfulness, his power of conversation, and the pleasure he experienced in imparting the knowledge he possessed, rendered him a most entertaining companion. Amongst the poor, he was as often their benefactor as their physician. He, even on commencing practice, seemed to have placed before him the best examples, and principally to have followed that of the immortal Boerhaave, who emphatically observed to his pupils, that he considered the poor his best patients, because God was their paymaster. Thus experience early matured a judgment not less strong by nature, than conversant with the theory and the literature of his art.

The same benevolent disposition, and the same ardour in his pursuits, led him to turn a portion of his little leisure towards political economy, and he studied deeply and attentively the interests and the management

of the poor. The workhouse of his own city became an object of earnest consideration, and he was led to believe that a great saving might be made in the consumption and distribution of the provisions and clothing, together with an increase of the comforts of its but too numerous wretched inhabitants. On becoming a member of the Court of Guardians, in the year 1783, he immediately suggested the propriety of inquiry, which he supported by a detail of certain facts that had reached him. The Court, however, negatived his first motions. He nevertheless repeated them, till at length his perseverance obtained the desired end—a committee was appointed, and the regulations he suggested were adopted. All this, however, was not effected without much obloquy, particularly from those whom it was the Doctor's principal desire to benefit. The populace even rose into serious riot when the regulations were first acted upon: but in a pamphlet which he published in 1788, containing the reports of the committee and the details of account, he triumphantly proved the advantages his system was capable of affording, and the result of a trial, was a saving of between *two and three thousand pounds per annum*, while the diet of the poor was improved. The only public notice this singular and valuable service attracted was the presentation of a piece of plate, which was the donation of a few private persons, who entered into a subscription for that purpose.

The Doctor's next publications were, "A Plan for the Charitable Inoculation of the Poor," and "An Essay on the Red Peruvian Bark." Thus we see that one of his favourite objects, because one of the most important to human life, was the prevention of the ravages of that dreadful malady, the small-pox.—We shall have occasion to notice hereafter the activity of the same benevolent principle. About the same time the attention of philosophers was strongly turned towards the source of animal heat, and in 1785 he printed a pamphlet, in which he started a very ingenious theory, and applied it to the treatment of cutaneous disorders, inflammation, and some other diseases; and although the chemical discoveries of Black, Crauford, and others, afterwards established a more plausible hypothesis, this work exhibits strong marks of the author's philosophical ability and medical judgment, for he therein recommends the application of refrigerants to the skin in inflammatory diseases, and the present doctrine of cold affusion, as introduced by the late Dr. Currie of Liverpool, differs little from the treatment proposed by Dr. Rigby. It is also especially worthy of remark, that the expedients so successfully adopted by his relative, Capt. Parry, to preserve the men from scurvy during his recent voyage, as related in that officer's journal, accord exactly with the recommendations in the Essay on Animal Heat. In the same year (1785) Dr. Rigby recorded the facts attending Mr. James Deeker's two ascents in a balloon from Norwich, and produced a little work on Sugar. In 1786 he projected and established the Norfolk Benevolent Medical Society, by which a fund was instituted to aid and support the widows and orphans of medical men who might be left in distress. This Society still exists—its means have been augmented by several legacies and donations, and it has been the means of increasing the comfort of venerable age and of the families of several worthy members of the profession.

It was reserved for this truly philanthropic man to render a most im-

portant service to Norwich, of which, we believe, all its inhabitants are not fully aware. During a visit to his native county, his natural kindness of heart led him to call upon his nurse, whom he found employed as a weaver, and using *the flying shuttle*. He immediately saw the immense superiority of this instrument over that thrown by the hand; he caused one to be purchased and brought it to Norwich. On his arrival he introduced the subject to Mr. Maltby, who treated his representation as an improper interference. He then applied to Mr. Patterson, who being instantly convinced of the great importance of the discovery, erected a loom for its employment. Since that time, the state of the manufactories of Norwich has evinced the benefit they have derived from the adoption of the flying shuttle. In 1788, the Doctor visited France, a part of Italy, and Switzerland, in company with W. Morgan, Esq. the celebrated calculator, and actuary of the Equitable Office, and another friend. It so happened that they reached Paris just at the explosion of the revolution. He was detained in that city a week, during which the attack of the Bastile and the massacre of the Thuilleries took place. He became acquainted with Turgot, Roland, and other persons distinguished at that period; and he has written a very animated and interesting journal of the events, which remains among his unpublished papers.

In 1789 Dr. Rigby was admitted a member of the London Corporation of Surgeons and of the London Medical Society.

With a mind thus constantly occupied in the contemplation and prosecution of public good, it may reasonably be imagined that Dr. Rigby had little desire for civic honours. In point of fact he was rather averse to encounter duties so much at variance with professional habits. In 1802, however, he was solicited by many friends, who were anxious to uphold the respectability of the corporation, to become a candidate for the vacant gown. The hope of still further improving the economy of the workhouse, or rather of preventing the erection of a new building, then in contemplation, was the grand motive which induced him to accept the office. He was elected in a very honourable manner, and in 1803 received the letter for sheriff, the duties of which he discharged with great justice and ability. In 1805 he succeeded to the mayoralty, and supported the chair with dignity and hospitality. In 1806 he was elected a Fellow of the Linnæan Society.

We must here retrograde a little in our narrative.—In 1802 we have stated Dr. Rigby was elected an alderman. Soon after his appointment he successfully opposed a plan for building a new workhouse, at an expence of £30,000, for which powers from parliament had been previously obtained. He shewed the inadequacy of the sum the guardians were authorized to raise by the act; he exposed the errors of the workhouse system, and advocated to conviction the superior advantages of out-door allowances, both as respected pecuniary savings, and the morals, the comforts, and happiness of the poor. Committees were appointed to ascertain the facts, and the result was a report, which stated, that by the system of out-door allowances, the expence per head was 12¼*d.* whereas the cost of maintenance in the house amounted to 3*s.* 6*d.* per head. Of the meagre and evasive notices of this report, however, Mr. Rigby very justly complained. The result was, the

alteration of St. Andrew's Workhouse, in lieu of erecting a new one, by which an immense saving was made to the city.

Dr. Rigby next turned his attention to the article of provision, and to the improvement of the medical treatment of the poor, and particularly to a system for preventing contagion and the spread of the small-pox. Committees were appointed for both objects—of the eight clauses in the report delivered by the Medical Committee, it is much to be lamented that only three were put into force.

The report of the Provision Committee (drawn by Alderman John Browne) exposed considerable differences between the sums paid for bread, butter, and meat, and the quantities apparently consumed. A division in the duties of management in consequence took place, and a committee to superintend the in-door arrangements was specially appointed.

During the year of Dr. Rigby's mayoralty, the philanthropic Mr. Nield visited Norwich, and published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* a report of what he witnessed in the workhouse, which was very disgraceful to the discipline there established. This occasioned a long controversy. In the same year the small-pox raged in Norwich, when the Mayor called a public meeting, to combine the general aid in checking its progress. In 1807, 1808, and 1809, its ravages swept off two hundred and three persons, and the appalling numbers of this mortality were recorded and preserved by a regulation adopted during Dr. Rigby's mayoralty, and this regulation has had no small effect in convincing the public mind of the necessity of preventive measures. Had the Doctor's plan been put into force there are strong grounds for believing this calamitous amount of death might have been wholly precluded.

In 1812, Dr. Rigby learned that the disease had *again appeared* in the neighbourhood; and at his suggestion a general vaccination was adopted with great effect. Of all these matters he published a general account in 1812, together with a report drawn by himself of the pauper vaccination.

The natural desire of gradually retiring from the incessant and constantly increasing labours of a most fatiguing and responsible profession, induced Dr. Rigby to think of taking the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and henceforth of practising as a physician. He therefore took his diploma in 1814; but in order to remove the delicate anxiety of females whom he had hitherto attended, he consented in many instances to continue his services to his old patients, while they were needed in one department, thus demonstrating the same kind attention to the feelings of his connexions, for which his life has been remarkable.

But though he thus retreated from the incessant calls upon his time, under which neither his health nor strength of body or mind, uncommon as they were, could have borne up, he never for a single moment abandoned the search after useful knowledge, which formed the assiduous, never-ceasing occupation of his entire thoughts. The variety of cases which necessarily occurs in a practice so extensive in every class of society, and the relief he afforded to the unfortunate, were to him sufficient relaxation. Agriculture had long been a favorite subject of his regard. He had for years become the cultivator of his own estate, at Framingham, near Norwich, where he had planted extensively.—The enclosure

of Poringland Heath enabled him to add to his landed possessions, and that once barren and dreary waste now smiles with his ornamental plantations and rich fertilization. In 1818 he published "Suggestions for an improved and extended Cultivation of Mangel Wurzel." He has since printed an account of Mr. Coke's services to the agricultural world, under the title of "HOLKHAM AND ITS AGRICULTURE," which has met with uncommon success, having gone through three large editions in about as many years, although reprinted entire in *the Pamphleteer*. This work has also been translated and printed in France, by a French agriculturist. He has since translated and published the Travels of M. Chateauvieux, on account of the facts relating to the agriculture of Italy there narrated; and finally, has given the practical application of the Holkham system to smaller establishments, in his account of "FRAMINGHAM AND ITS AGRICULTURE," printed last year.

Up to the hour of his last illness, he was employed in a sixth edition of his greatest work, *the Essay on the Uterine Hæmorrhage.*

In consequence of the reputation of his writings on agriculture the Doctor was elected an honorary member of the Philadelphia Society for promoting that science; and the Horticultural Society of London.

In addition to the honours we have recorded, he was presented with the freedom of the city previous to his election as alderman; he had been surgeon, and was till his death physician to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and to the Lunatic Asylum (the duties of which he discharged in a manner highly creditable to him both as a practitioner and a christian) president of the Philosophical Society, a director of the Norwich Fire Office, an honorary member of the Society of Artists, and a member of several public Committees, to the duties of which he seldom failed strictly to attend.

Thus scarcely a year has passed without being marked by some act of public advantage, emanating from his powerful and useful mind. Yet strange to say, (we blush while we record the fact) the eminent and valuable public services of this actively-good man have been recognised by no public acknowledgment; and while the walls of the ancient hall of magistracy of Norwich, glare with the portraits of not a few men distinguished principally for their attachment to the rage of party, there exists no trace of the public gratitude to one who so largely contributed to the universal benefit of his wealthier and of his poorer fellow citizens. We cite this as one amongst many striking proofs of the prevalence of *party* over the *public* cause. Dr. Rigby was a consistent Whig, but has neither cared for nor encouraged "the two-penny, or flighty politics" of Norwich. His extensive and elevated services to humanity were not observed by those whose groveling researches were directed only towards the insect-breeding ordure of paltry partisan triumphs.

In private life Dr. Rigby's purse was ever open to the wants of worthy claimants, and his charity and his friendship were always unostentatiously extended to those who needed his aid. He was placid, though energetic and affectionate in his manners; but his attention to domestic ties was necessarily much interrupted and abstracted by public and professional duties, as well as by the constant habit of intellectual employment, from which he never relaxed for a single moment. His

general attainments in literature and science were highly respectable; and his principal pleasure was the visit to Framingham, five miles from Norwich, which he made almost daily in the afternoon, returning in the evening to be in readiness to attend any calls that might be made upon him.

His personal habits were simple, frugal, and abstemious: he rose very early, drank no wine, and enjoyed, till within a few days of his death, an almost uninterrupted series of health and vigour. Even so late as ten days before his decease, he performed a journey of sixty miles, after visiting his Norwich patients, in one day, although just relieved from a state of considerable muscular pain, under which he had been suffering for some weeks. In fact his mind never yielded; he was enthusiastic in the pursuit of good, and unwearied in its exercise.

Dr. Rigby was twice married—first to Sarah, co-heiress of John Dyball, Esq. and secondly to Anne, daughter of W. Palgrave, Esq. He has left issue two daughters by the first, and two sons and six daughters by the second lady, who has borne him twelve children. Already his progeny has arrived at the fourth generation. His truly valuable life was terminated on Saturday the 17th of November, being the seventy-fourth year of his age.

Our readers will require no apology from us for this protracted recital of the life of a physician, whose talents, character, and honours claim from us a record, as an example worthy of the imitation of every class of practitioners. Of him it may be said, in the language of Burke, that "he was a public creature; he had in himself a salient, living spring of generous and manly action;" and the longer (as it seems to human apprehension) life had been indulged to him, the greater would have been the benefits that life would have enabled him to diffuse amongst his fellow-creatures—for USEFULNESS was the motive, path, and end of his existence.

Dr. Rigby was one of the class of practical physicians, which fortunately for invalids residing in the country is very numerous, scarcely a market town being without one, but unfortunately for this metropolis, is here proportionately very small. When one dares to settle within the jurisdiction of the College of Physicians in London, he is stigmatized by this liberal body with the epithet of *irregular* physician, merely to prejudice the ignorant against him, and they decline to meet him in consultation, because he commenced his career as a surgeon, and had not resided two years at an University. To them the only test of medical fitness is an acquaintance with Latin and Greek!! From the class of practical physicians, and from surgeon-apothecaries, all the improvements and discoveries in medicine have originated, and the College, by excluding them from the practice of the metropolis, instead of benefiting the "liege citizens of London," for which their charter was originally granted by Henry the Eighth, and confirmed by subsequent monarchs, cause them to suffer by their restrictive laws and monopolizing spirit; for, notwithstanding their insulting conduct towards the class of practitioners, they will not dare to insult common sense, so far as to assert that such a practitioner as the late Dr. Rigby was not more entitled to the implicit confidence of an invalid, than the graduate of an

university, where even the rudiments of medicine are not taught, who cannot recognise a disease at the bed-side of a patient, and whose success in practice depends on impudence, imposing manners, and craft.

Among the candidates for the office of physician to the Norwich hospital as successor to Dr. Rigby, we are glad to observe the name of the scientific Dr. Richard Reeve. In the practice of midwifery, the Doctor is succeeded by the scientific, skilful and humane Mr. Scott.

PROGRESS OF MEDICINE.—(*Continued from page* 1098.)—*The Energetic Principle.*—I suppose I am to understand, by the Energetic Principle, the commands of the will, or volitions transmitted to the voluntary muscles, disturbing their Rest, and calling forth the exercise of their functions for the accomplishment of loco-motion; and the transmission of the commands of the brain to all the constituent parts of the body, for the purpose of continuing their vitality, to fill up the integrity of life, and for the accomplishment of all her purposes.

The whole of this principle, then, is limited to the brain and its appendages. But, only suspend the function of the brain, or its attribute sensation, and all the animal functions will of course be suspended. Suspend the function of the heart, and all the muscles, while that of the brain continues, were that possible, and all the animal functions would be suspended. Suspend the function of tubulated elastic ligament, or the arteries, and the functions of the brain and the muscles would soon be suspended. No one of the vital functions can be suspended without the whole of the vital powers being suspended; and consequently all the animal powers will soon be suspended also. Or, abstract caloric, and suspend circulation, which are other attributes of animal life, perpetually disturbing the rest of the brain and of the moving solid, and, under either of these circumstances, there will remain no energetic principle.

There is, then, no abstract energetic principle.

Principle consists of the simultaneous exercise of all the attributes of life, that is the disturbance of their rest; and their exertion is to restore Rest.

Metastic Principle.—Vague notions attach to the term Metastasis, originally meaning the transposition of some thing or property, without any apparent means. Hence the disease, fancifully called Rheumatism, was supposed to be occasioned by the deposition of some particular humour, capable of producing inflammation of a muscle so long as it was applied to it; that it was translated to another muscle by some undescribable agent, producing the same effect in that muscle; and that on the humour being removed from the muscle, the inflammation would retire, and so on through the course of the disease; inferring, that where the humour abounded, there rheumatism must abound.

But the improvements of time have shewn, that there is not such a humour; and, consequently, there cannot be such a magical translation of it, as a cause of rheumatism; and there now remains nothing of the opinion, respecting the nature of the disease which has any kind of agreement with the etymology or import of the denominating term Rheumatism.

Inflammatory Principle.—Inflammation is a term by no means de-

claratory of the disease it is intended to represent; it points only to one of the integers—heat. The disease is a compound of all the attributes of life, exercising above the limits of health. Each of the attributes of life, among the rest of them, caloric in excess, should be implicated in the denominating term for inflammation.

The common circumambient elements are in constant motion, to ultimately obtain rest; going through those various and numberless changes, part of which are daily seen, and part of which are concealed from us.

These elementary changes are properly considered efficient agents in the common and healthy operations of the animal frame; and it can easily be admitted that the sudden and violent elementary changes which are known and observed, are prevailing causes of excessive exercise of all the attributes of life above the limits of health—and, I repeat, that state is inflammation. HYPERBIOSIS.

The casual application of caloric to the external surface is productive of inflammation; that is, it excites all the attributes of life to a state of exercise exceeding that of health. Now what does all this amount to? It is not peculiar to caloric to produce this effect; it is common to all substances usually called acrid, or such as have the power of invading an association of elements, and taking place of some one, which it dislodges, and therefore disturbs the rest of the association. The dislodged element must be in a state of exertion, until it obtains some other element, or some association of elements worthy of combination; and that is known to be accomplished by the restoration of rest.

The proposition is strengthened by the above observations, because they shew, in the clearest manner, that inflammation commences with disturbance of rest, and retires by the means of obtaining *rest again.*

There is then no definable inflammatory principle; but *the universal* and sole principle operating upon a particular arrangement of organic animal matter.

Spasmodic Principle.—The hypothetical notion of spasmodic action, and the ridiculous term to denote it, renders the whole doctrine of spasm a laughing-stock to an enlightened mind.

How confused is the explanation of the doctrine. That which may be deemed the most familiar, though altogether unsatisfactory, is, that spasm consists of increased action with diminished power. Now, if I have any understanding of what is meant by spasm, it is painful, involuntary, and ungovernable action of a voluntary muscle; or inordinate, painful and resistless exercise of function in any GENUS of solid which has muscular association,—instanced in the alimentary canal, the bladder, and the uterus; also in the organs of perception, and the brain within the head.

Painful, involuntary, and ungovernable action of a muscle is not a primary affection of the muscle, but of the nerve which carries volition to that muscle; and the morbid affection of the nerve is inflammation; consequently the nerve carries the commands of the brain to the muscle either with too much force, or continues it too long a time; therefore, the action of the muscle cannot correspond with the will; and, in my opinion, all spasmodic affections of the muscle depend upon this circumstance, and admit of the same explanation.

Hence all convulsive painful motions, such as trismus, tetanus, &c. are only the evidences by which inflammation of a nerve is detected and distinguished. It is, therefore, inferred that all spasmodic actions of muscle are but symptomatic of existing inflammation of the nerve which transmits the commands of the brain to the moving solid.

This at once shews that there is no such thing as spasmodic principle; but that involuntary actions of voluntary muscles are as rationally accounted for, without developing a new principle, as the most natural and best explained phenomena in the animal economy.

Yielding Principle.—We must understand this to mean, when applied to parturition, but little resistance made by the uterus, to a displacing power; or the os uteri giving way kindly to pressure made upon it by the presenting parts propelled by parenthesystolitis; or the extraordinary action of the substance of the uterus. But to ascribe either the cause or the effect to a new principle is ridiculous.

Hereditary Principle.—I cannot see any reason for such a distinction, how it can possibly exist, what it is, or what practical utility it is expected to promote. It appears to me altogether unintelligible, and unworthy of consideration.

All the other new principles are so near of kin to those I have noticed, they are so loose in their texture that they will not bear unravelling.—(*To be continued.*)

ABSTINENCE FROM FOOD.—For the following case of long abstinence from food, we are indebted to Mr. Ball, a scientific surgeon of Dunleer, in Ireland. In August, 1821, John Codey, aged about 25 years, a native of Kilkenny, in Ireland, begged a night's lodging at the house of Keenan, a farmer, at Rathoscan, upon the estate of John Leslie Foster, Esq., in the county of Louth. A bed was immediately provided for him in an out-barn, in which he remained for *upwards of five weeks without taking a morsel of food of any description!* Being requested to visit him, towards the latter end of the fifth week, I found that for the first three weeks he generally drank about half a pint of water, in the course of twenty-four hours; but at the time I saw him, not more than three or four ounces.

His tongue appeared perfectly clean; his pulse 120, very feeble; the body greatly emaciated, the abdomen tense and rigid, imparting to the fingers a sensation somewhat like that of a body recently dead; he had had no alvine evacuation for four weeks preceding; his urine scanty and high coloured; the heat of his body considerably below the natural standard; his voice was, however, strong and clean; his countenance lively and expressive, and he answered all questions put to him with accuracy and affability.

On my asking him why he so much disliked food, he said he felt a *burning in his stomach*, and that he could not swallow any thing but cold water. I used much entreaty to induce him to take a little wine, jelly, broth, and such other things as I thought best fitted for a capricious appetite. I told him he would assuredly die if he did not take nourishment of some kind, but he obstinately persisted in refusing to take any thing but water, observing he was quite prepared for death.

Finding that if he was suffered to remain much longer in this state, he could not possibly survive, I suggested to Mrs. Leslie Foster, the expe-

diency of having recourse to stratagem; and, accordingly, a quantity of wine was mingled with the water, which he drank as usual, without discovering the deception, and went on in this manner for some time; he then took a fancy to whey, to which also an equal proportion of Madeira was added, by which his strength was a little recruited: at length, Mrs. Leslie Foster (who is peculiarly distinguished for her generosity and attention to the poor of this neighbourhood) went herself to see him, and brought with her a variety of the most delicate kinds of food, none of which he could by any persuasion be prevailed upon to take; finding our efforts in this way altogether fruitless, the servants were ordered to force some jelly into his stomach, which one of them effected with great difficulty, as he made several attempts to bite his fingers; the delusion immediately vanished; thenceforward he took food at regular intervals, and at this period, Oct. 20th, his appetite is keen, but not immoderate; he is acquiring strength and flesh, and his bowels perform their functions regularly. Being furnished with proper clothing, and every requisite comfort, by this lady, he uses exercise, and is much better than any person could possibly be expected to be, who had never swallowed a particle of solid food for the space of *forty-four* days.

In order that all idea of imposition in this case should be removed, I have obtained the consent of the parties, in whose barn this man lay, to declare upon oath, (if called upon to do so) the impossibility of his being clandestinely furnished with food of any kind whatsoever.

JOHN BALL,
Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of London.

Dunleer Dispensary, Ireland,
Oct. 27, 1821.

Mr. Ball, in his Letter to the Editors, terms the foregoing case, Hypochondriacism.

ARSENIC.—The scientific chemist, Mr. Hume, has published the following case of an attempt to destroy life by arsenic, to illustrate the effects of the carbonate of magnesia, in counteracting the fatal operation of that powerful mineral poison, when conveyed into the stomach.

On the 18th of July last, M. N., a young married woman, about twenty years of age, in consequence of a violent altercation with her husband, in a state of inebriety, determined on self-destruction, by taking arsenic. At a late hour, being near midnight, she eat rather heartily of cold fried sheep's liver, without bread or any liquid; soon afterwards she swallowed the arsenic, having mixed it with a little water in a wine-glass.

About eight o'clock on the following morning, the mother of this poor woman, in the most urgent and impressive manner, implored Mr. Hume to accompany her instantly to see her dying daughter, who had taken poison; at the same time presenting him the paper, containing the remainder of the arsenic. This parcel Mr. H. retained, for the purpose of examination and analysis, in case an authorized inquiry by a jury should be necessary. As the distance was short, and as the wretched mother seemed most unwilling to lose time, by applying to another practitioner, Mr. Hume immediately attended her to her daughter's lodging, but with no expectation of success, as, without any nice examination of the powder, he soon discovered its nature, and the mother had informed him of the quantity which her daughter had taken.

On entering the room, Mr. Hume found the miserable wretch in the most excruciating agonies, attended with constant efforts to vomit, or retchings, although it appeared that she had, in the early part of the morning, vomited once or twice rather copiously. The pulse was extremely rapid, and rather unequal; it was rather above 120. In the commencement of such accidents, the pulse is probably not to be relied on as an indication; for, particularly on this occasion, the patient suffered as much from mental as bodily agitation; seemed fully sensible of her danger, and, in the opinion of Mr. Hume, repented most sincerely of the rashness of her conduct. She complained of the well known signs attending an overdose of arsenic, such as acute and fixed pain in and about the gastric region; a sensation of burning heat in the throat and fauces; and, in short, to use a convenient expression, she was labouring under all the symptoms peculiar to the arsenical poison. Mr. Hume quickly returned home, requesting the mother to accompany him for the sake of dispatch. He gave her a mixture composed of carbonate of magnesia, one ounce; distilled water, fifteen ounces; wine of opium, a drachm and half; compound spirit of lavender three drachms; white sugar, half an ounce; two large table spoonsful to be taken immediately, and to be repeated frequently, previously shaking the bottle.

Besides a written label on the bottle, he instructed the mother to give a dose of the mixture every ten minutes, as long as the symptoms continued violent; but should there be any material remission, then to exhibit the medicine every quarter of an hour or twenty minutes, according to circumstances. So slight were his expectations of saving this unfortunate woman, that he did not think it requisite to visit her again; he had, indeed, informed the mother, as well as the unhappy husband, who blamed himself for having been the cause of his wife's situation, that he considered it a hopeless case. Mr. Hume's mind was afterwards rather occupied in preparing such evidence as might be satisfactory to a coroner's jury, than forming any plan for the treatment of the patient; but another visit from the mother checked this career; she informed him, that her daughter "had again been taken very ill;" and begged he would see her immediately. This message convinced him there had been a remission of the symptoms, and that the same remedy ought to be continued; he, therefore, not having it in his power to visit the patient, desired that the daughter should persevere with the same medicine, observing to her, that he could prescribe nothing more efficacious. This was assented to, and the same mixture was repeated, omitting half a drachm of the vinum opii, the patient having been disposed to drowsiness by the first proportion. Mr. Hume concludes:

"I am unwilling to delay what I consider to be the chief object of my letter, the mode of applying magnesia; but, having other circumstances to add, which may be important, my time being at present engaged too much in professional pursuits to permit me to proceed any farther on this subject, I shall only say, that the patient herself waited on me, I believe, on the fifth day after, and that, in less than ten days, she was perfectly well. It is proper to mention, that castor oil, and other (what I shall call) occasional remedies, were also employed in this case."

The only surprise the perusal of this case has produced in our minds,

is, what could have induced Mr. Hume to have administered so simple an article as common magnesia, to counteract the effect of so powerful a poison? It would be an act of injustice to Mr. Hume, to make any observation on his practice in this case, till he has finished his communication.

CROTON OIL.—Since we noticed the powerful cathartic property of this oil, Dr. Uwins has published the following article on it, from the pen of Surgeon Perry.

"Since the commencement of the present century, innumerable have been the medicines which have been intruded on the notice of the medical profession. Each has had its turn, in holding a place in the good opinion of the prescriber, till another, possessing more active virtues, has caused him to discard, perhaps a favourite material, in order to give room to a new, and, perhaps, a fashionable medicine.

"The object of the present paper is briefly to advert to a medicine recently introduced to notice. That the croton oil until lately has never been employed, is not here alleged, since we are informed that it formerly held a place in the list of formulæ, but was discarded on account of its too violent action. It has again found its way into practice, and is held forth as a most valuable medicine. That such is the case, I am thoroughly convinced, and in order to make the public sensible of this, the present mode has been adopted.—A remedy holding so high a place in the estimation of men of eminence in the metropolis, with whom I have the honour of being acquainted, and by whom I have seen it frequently prescribed with decided benefit, cannot certainly be too soon circulated. I am disposed to think, that in the country it has hardly been heard of, as several provincial friends, through my recommendation, have been disposed to order it, who were quite ignorant that such a medicine was in existence. Perhaps it may be asked, how a medicine now so warmly eulogized, should have sunk into such oblivion? To this I would answer, that its proper dose was never ascertained; consequently, being prescribed incautiously, its effects were prejudicial. And how probable is it that many a valuable article, which once held a place in the materia medica, has been discarded, merely because the ignorant prescriber was unacquainted with the exactness of quantity in which it should have been administered! To imagine that all those medicines are inert, which are now laid aside, would, under these circumstances, be presumptuous, and does it not behove us to lend our encouragement to the assistance of any individual whose labours are stimulated by anxious inquiry? To intimate to those who are daily in the habit of employing it, either its properties or doses, would justly be deemed folly; yet to those who are unacquainted with the article in question, and consequently both, must the attention of the present writer be directed. If given in a half minim dose, it generally produces about six evacuations, without either pain or other inconvenience; yet should obstinate costiveness prevail, and other remedies have been tried, such as calomel, the Epsom salt, the compound extract of colocynth, &c. it may then be prescribed in the quantity of two minims, which will be found to answer fully. It is generally formed into a pill with the crumb of bread, to which form I see no objection. That the Croton pill will be found in the shop of the apothecary an invaluable one, I have not the smallest doubt, and should

these remarks at all tend to establish its use, my efforts will be more than repaid."

It must appear obvious even to our non-medical readers, that an article capable of operating on the bowels in the small quantity of one drop is much too powerful to be administered generally as an aperient medicine. It is not a fact that the oil fell into disuse in consequence of practitioners not being acquainted with the proper dose of it, for Dr. Fleming, in his work, published thirty years ago, represents its dose to be a drop. The fact is, on tender bowels it produced very violent effects, and in some instances the mischief terminated fatally. It is in cases of serious obstructions in the intestines, such as that which proved fatal to her late Majesty, that a practitioner is justified in having recourse to a *poisonous* cathartic.

We were told two months ago, that the enlightened physicians, Drs. Ainslie and Maton, were preparing for the press, the particulars of the causes, treatment, &c. of the case of her late Majesty; but we have good reason for believing that the period of its publication is now as far distant as it was then. They have not yet been able, even with the assistance of Dr. Baillie, to make out a case that will bear critical examination!! The intention, we believe, is abandoned.

DR. PARIS'S PHARMACOLOGIA.—(*Continued from page* 1108.)—The learned Doctor condemns the attempts of some physiologists to account for the phenomena of life, upon *principles* deduced from the *analogies* of *inert* matter, and "we, *therefore*," says he, "find that the *most intelligent* physiologists of modern times have been anxious to discourage the attempt, and to deprecate its folly."

In confirmation of this sweeping censure (for which the College has been long notorious) he gives a quotation from the Lectures of Dr. William Hunter, for a knowledge of which, he acknowledges himself indebted to the "Medical Logic" of Sir Gilbert Blane, Bart.; a work, which, although Sir Gilbert is only a licentiate, he condescends to term "*luminous.*" When the celebrated Hunter was lecturing to his pupils, he observed, "Gentlemen, some physiologists will have it, that the stomach is a mill, others that it is a fermenting vat, others again, that it is a stew-pan, but, in my view of the matter, it is neither a mill, a fermenting vat, nor a stew-pan, but a *stomach*, gentlemen, a *stomach.*"!! This observation, Doctor Paris thinks exceedingly clever, and applicable to the attempts of some modern physiologists, to account for the assimilating powers of the stomach. The Doctor is not aware that the lecturer alluded to the opinions generally entertained by the Fellows of the College of Physicians of London, and which prevailed in the English Universities. Dr. Hunter was, in fact, ridiculing the qualifications of a certain class of impudent practitioners, which Dr. Paris labours to persuade his readers are entitled to some respect. If Dr. Paris were acquainted with the lectures of the justly celebrated Hunter, beyond what he has been able to pick up from the "luminous Medical Logic" of Sir Gilbert Blane, he would know that no man had a greater contempt for the medical acquirements of a certain set of physicians, whom he generally designated the big wig gentlemen. He often asserted, that from repeated consultations with them, he never acquired the smallest information, nothing to applaud, but much, very much, to excite his

commiseration for their poor patients. No proof of knowledge that might be termed *medical*, but plenty of "ignorance, gentlemen, ignorance, clothed in Latin and Greek;" and he has often been heard to say, that he was more indebted to the questions and observations of his pupils, than to all the books he had read, and all the consultations he had had with the big wigs.

No man endeavoured more to promote medical science, for the good of his fellow creatures, than Dr. William Hunter. Seeing that the practice of a certain set of physicians was a system of splendid quackery, and that the grand stimulus was the fee, he was very anxious to transfer the *medical* education of the students of Oxford and Cambridge, who intended to obtain a degree in medicine, to London, on account of its affording the important advantage of hospital practice, of *seeing* diseases, as well as *hearing* of them. For this purpose he made application to the legislature, and offered to give his immense museum of preparations of diseased parts, &c., provided government acceded to this plan of establishing a medical school in London, with the power of granting medical degrees. The application, however, excited the jealousy of the College of Physicians.

The idea that the pupils of the London College should be deemed *regular* physicians, was preposterous, because it would shake the confidence of the public in the professional abilities of those who were educated at Oxford and Cambridge. The plan was condemned as an attempt to undermine the ancient institutions of the country, so much admired by all nations, and to undervalue classical learning. Classical medicine, in their opinion, could receive no advantage from practice, and Dr. Hunter's plan, from which immense benefit would have arisen to the public, was unfortunately negatived.

Dr. Paris has learned, from several quarters, that the effects of the Peruvian bark and other drugs may be produced by an artificial combination of the articles which enter their composition. Dr. Harrison, of the Horncastle Dispensary, told him that "he *never* employed any other remedy for curing the ague of Lincolnshire than a combination of equal parts of Bistort root (an astringent), and the sweet flag root, neither of which individually effected any benefit." The combination of these articles being astringent, bitter, and aromatic, the Doctor supposes to be similar to Peruvian bark. The idea that the beneficial effect of Peruvian bark in ague and other diseases is produced by a peculiar principle, termed *cinchonin*, is, according to the experiments of Dr. Harrison, incorrect!!

Dr. Paris has also discovered that "the *bitter element* of senna, in combination with the purgative principle, *exalts* the efficacy of the latter." The senna cultivated in Italy is not so active as that imported from Egypt, because it is less bitter; but if a bitter be added, it will operate equally well as an aperient. The bitter of aloes certainly promotes the purgative operation of senna, but that of columbo checks it.

Speaking of the acetate of potass, the Doctor asserts, that it may be decomposed by most *sub*-acid fruits, and by every variety of *neutral* salt, whether *alcaline*, *acid*, or *metallic*. If the salt be an alcali or an acid, how can it be termed *neutral*—which signifies, that it is neither acid nor alcaline? This is *luminous* College logic. Experiments with

the acetate of potass, the learned Doctor says, " have fully satisfied me that the digestive organs possess the power of readily decomposing all saline compounds into which *vegetable* acids enter as ingredients, and of eliminating their alkaline base; which, being in the course of circulation carried to the kidneys, excites them into action, and promotes the excretion of urine; and that it is in this way, the *acetate, citrate, super-tartrate,* and other combinations of potass or soda, prove diuretic: on the other hand, it is equally evident that salts containing the *mineral* acids are not under the control of the decomposing powers of the *chylopoietic* organs, and consequently do not undergo any changes *in transitu,* although some of those salts, especially the more soluble ones, are absorbed, and stimulate the urinary organs by their contact: this happens with *nitrate of potass,* which may be chemically detected in the urine of those persons who have taken it. *Sulphate* of potass, however, from its insolubility, is not readily absorbed, and its composition will not allow the development of its base; it has not therefore any tendency to produce an influence upon the urinary secretion. But it must be observed, that the diuretic operation of any saline body that acts by absorption, is at once suspended if purging is induced, either by the largeness of the dose, its increased solubility, or by the effect of its combination with any other remedy; for it is a law, that *the processes of assimilation and absorption are arrested, or very imperfectly performed during any alvine excitement:* the different effects of the saline compounds of the alkalies with tartaric acid, elucidate in a very striking manner the truth of this law—thus super-tartrate of potass or *cream of tartar* acts in well regulated doses, as we all know, upon the kidneys: the tartaric acid being in this case abstracted and assimilated by the digestive process, and the alkaline base at the same time eliminated and subsequently absorbed; but if we increase the solubility of the compound, by reducing it to the state of a neutral tartrate *(soluble tartar),* or by combining it with boracic acid, or some body that has a similar effect; or what is equivalent to it, if we so increase the dose of the cream of tartar, that catharsis follows its administration, then diuresis will not ensue, since no decomposition can take place under such circumstances. *Nitre,* and those salts which are carried to the kidneys without previous decomposition, are subject to the same law, for if we combine them with purgatives, their presence can no longer be recognised in the urine."

Vegetable acids in combination with potass, being abstracted and assimilated by the digestive organs, the alcali is let loose, absorbed, and conveyed to the kidneys!!! What a most wonderful discovery, and most precious piece of theory!—Unfortunately for this flight of fancy, a solution of tartaric acid acts more powerfully on the kidneys than when neutralized by potass, and the diuretic effects of mineral acids neutralized by potass, are equal and sometimes greater than the tartrate or citrate of potass. Experience has most satisfactorily proved that no article is sooner assimilated in the stomach, than potass in a small dose. That a neutral salt, composed of a vegetable acid and an alcali, is decomposed in the stomach, the alcali is absorbed and conveyed to the mass of blood, is too ridiculous for observation.

The Doctor has given the composition of many popular nostrums, which in the proportion of one to thirty, approach nearly to correctness. For this part of his work, he is indebted for his best information to the Medical Observer. The others are unfortunate guesses, for it is evident that he has not taken the trouble to analyze one. The Riga balsam, he says, is made by macerating the bruised shoots of the *pinus cembra* in *water* for a month. Now had he taken the trouble to examine the article, he would have found it a powerful spirit.

The only nostrum of which the Doctor speaks favourably is the "prepared essence of senna"—he has not condescended even to guess at the composition; for this omission, he has obliged the proprietor by stating the place of sale, a favour he has not shewn to any other proprietor!

The Doctor's Pharmacologia is, in fact, except the collection of prescriptions, of which an apothecary of the modern school would be ashamed, a mass of information gathered from different writers, connected by superficial matter. Mr. Batley, speaking of this production, expresses his astonishment that it should have reached a second edition, and considers the circumstance as disgraceful to the medical profession of this country. We can, however, assure that gentleman, from good authority, that the Pharmacologia and other similar works are chiefly purchased by people who are not of the professsion, and who of course are not competent judges of their merits.

DEAFNESS.—We intended some time ago to review Mr. Wright's Address to Persons afflicted with Deafness, but have been prevented by press of other subjects, and want of leisure.

The work before us, possesses the great advantage of popular treatises on medicine, when written by men of integrity and competent ability,—as they warn the sufferer against the danger of quackery, or the oftentimes fatal consequences attending the employment of nostrums, and domestic prescriptions.

It has often fallen to our lot as public censors, to hear the lamentation of persons, some of whom have been the victims of an advertised panacea, and others of the good old woman's family remedy, and in no case has this occurrence been more frequent, than in that calamity which forms the subject of the small but very valuable treatise now before us. A remedy which may be very judicious in one case, may be fatal by misapplication in another. An author then cannot render a more acceptable service to society, than by publishing clear and comprehensive rules for discriminating the multifarious causes of disease, to enable his readers to ascertain with precision the treatment which should be employed for them respectively.

We wish Mr. Wright would embody his two works on the Ear and Deafness into one, at some future period, as from his knowledge of the subject, and his well known honourable treatment of patients,—such a work would be eminently useful both to the profession and the public.

He certainly has lashed quackery severely, but justly; at the same time, we conceive, he has mistaken the observations of a professor of electricity, and in consequence has retorted with considerable asperity; both being men of science, we are sorry any misunderstanding of the kind should take place.

HYDROPHOBIA.—Dr. Muller, of Vienna, a scientific physician and oculist (now a resident at Paris), has lately published in the Gazette de Sante, a new mode of treating this formidable disease, which was communicated to him by M. Marochetti, a surgeon, of Moscow. This surgeon, during his residence at Ukrane, in the year 1813, attended fifteen persons who had been bit by a mad dog. While he was making the necessary preparations for cauterizing, &c. the wounds, some old men requested him to treat the unfortunate people according to the directions of a peasant in the neighbourhood, who had obtained great reputation for the cure of hydrophobia. M. Marochetti, having heard his plan spoken of in terms of approbation, acquiesced in the urgent request of the old men, on the following conditions:—Firstly, That M. Marochetti should be present at all the operations of the peasant; and, secondly, be allowed to examine if the wounds were inflicted by a *mad* dog. M. Marochetti made choice of a lady, of sixteen years of age, whom he had treated till then by the customary means. The peasant gave to the fourteen patients placed under his care, a strong decoction of the tops of the flowers of the yellow broom (a pound and a half a day). He examined twice a day the under part of the tongue, where he had generally discovered little pimples, containing, as he believed, the hydrophobic poison: these pimples really followed, and were observed by M. Marochetti himself. As they formed, the peasant opened them and cauterized the parts with a red-hot needle; after which, the patients gargled with the decoction mentioned above. The result of this treatment was, that the fourteen patients returned cured, having only drank the decoction for six weeks. The two who had been bitten the last, showed no pimples under the tongue; but, the little girl was attacked, the seventh day, with symptoms of hydrophobia, and died eight days after the attack. M. Marochetti, three years afterwards, saw the fourteen patients perfectly well. About five years afterwards, M. Marochetti had an opportunity of giving this treatment another trial. Twenty-six persons, who had been bit by a mad dog, were put under his care:—viz. nine men, eleven women, and six children; he ordered them to be given, as soon as possible, the decoction of the summits of the flowers of the yellow broom; and upon the attentive examination of their tongues, he discovered pimples on five men, three children, and all the women. Those who were most wounded were afflicted on the third day, the others on the fifth, seventh, or ninth. One of the women, who had been slightly bitten in the leg, had no appearance till the twenty-first day. The seven which were free from pimples took the decoction of broom for six weeks with success.

M. Marochetti thinks that the hydrophobic poison, after having remained in the wound, fixes under the tongue, in the orifices of the ducts of the submaxillary gland, which are situated on the sides of the frænum. The inflammation, of which the little pimples are the result, has a peculiar appearance. The time in which these pimples appear, is generally between the third and ninth day after the bite. If they are not opened before twenty-four hours after their appearance, the venom is absorbed and the patient is lost. On this account,

M. Marochetti advises the examination of the tongue of the patient immediately after the bite, and to continue this examination for six weeks; and making them drink daily a pound and a half of the decoction of the summits of the flowers of the yellow broom, or a drachm of the fresh powdered plant four times a day. If, during this time, the pimples do not form themselves, we ought, says M. Marochetti, not to dread the disease, but as soon as they do appear, they must be opened and cauterized immediately, and the gargle (the decoction mentioned above) used frequently.

In the Medical Journal, a correspondent states that the canine madness affects male dogs only.

SANGUINEOUS TUMOUR.—The following interesting case of this very rare disease, lately occurred in the practice of Mr. De Merveilleux, an eminent surgeon, of Stamford:—

Jane Jones, aged eight years, applied to Mr. de M. August 2, with a tumour, situated over the insertion of the deltoid muscle. It was about the size of an egg, having a blueish appearance, and seemed to consist of several cells, or cysts, containing a fluid, which might, by pressure for a few minutes, be dispersed, but gradually returned again when the pressure was removed. According to her mother's account of it, it arose from a blow on the arm; when she first noticed it, it was not larger than a nut, but has been gradually increasing for about two years. It was not painful. Mr. De M. made a small opening with a lancet, and evacuated about two ounces of fluid blood, without diminishing in any sensible degree, the size of the tumour. Adhesive plaister and pressure, with a compress, were employed, and the incision healed.

August 5th.—The tumour being in every respect the same, Mr. De M. passed a seton through it, when the same quantity of fluid blood was discharged as in the first instance. The cavity in a few days began to secrete healthy pus, and in the course of three weeks the seton was withdrawn, the cavity obliterated, and the orifices healed.

The late ingenious Mr. John Bell, in the third volume of his Principles of Surgery, page 268, speaking of this tumour, says, "often I find blood poured out in various parts of the body, either into sacs or into cavities, or into cellular substances, without being matured into pus. Mere inflammation, with some indisposition, or weakness in the structure or actions of the part, occasions this; and I am persuaded, that often, in old sacs, when the blood continues fluid for months, or even years, it is poured out by a sort of secretion, and is circulated by a slow reabsorbtion, which keeps it always fluid, though enclosed in a firm sac, from which you cannot repress it into the veins, which are yet capable of reabsorbing it."

Again, "Among various examples of this general fact, some are cases of bloody effusion, where we can only, by provident evacuations, moderate that vascular action by which it is produced; others are cases, by which we can, by obliterating the sac into which the blood is secreted, stop the course of local disease."

SULPHUREOUS FUMIGATION.—Sir Arthur Clarke, M.D. &c. in his Essay on Diseases of the Skin, noticed in our seventieth

number, has taken a comprehensive view of the effects of sulphureous fumigation, " on some of the most embarrassing and complicated diseases of the skin, which occur in this country. Like the man of science, he has treated the subject in an intelligible manner, and honestly given the results of his long experience. Sir Arthur, being at the head of two large establishments in Dublin, has had opportunities of giving the remedy a fair trial, which have not fallen to the lot of any physician in Europe. For the use of this important remedy, Sir Arthur gives the following very judicious instructions:—

1. In strong, robust constitutions, it is generally safest to take some blood before the commencement of the process.

2. The morning, or any hour between breakfast and dinner, is the best time for using the fumigation. When it is used late in the evening, an uncomfortable restlessness is often felt in the night. This circumstance, as well as headache, will indicate the necessity of taking immediately, or early the following morning, a dose of some agreeable cathartic.

3. The temperature of the fumigation must be regulated from 100 to 130, according to the age, strength, and constitution of the patient. In cases of long standing, accompanied by debility, it sometimes happens that the fumigation is scarcely put into operation, before the patient feels distressing sickness, threatening danger of fainting. When this happens, the temperature should be lowered by letting in cool air, and withdrawing the crucible containing the sulphur. The patient may then get a little hartshorn and lavender, or a glass of wine and water; and when sufficiently refreshed, the temperature may be gradually raised, and the sulphur introduced. After a day or two, it will be found that a higher temperature and a longer duration of its application can be borne with less anxiety. Should there be any fulness in the head, or pulsation felt in the temples, the same directions relative to lowering the temperature, &c. are to be observed, with the exception of the wine or other stimulants, which in this instance would be injurious.

4. In all cases considerable regard should be paid to the feelings of the patient. The fumigation should never be continued after it becomes disagreeable, or for a longer period than half an hour. It may be repeated in some cases, every six, eight, or twelve hours; in ordinary cases, once a day will be sufficient. It may be used with safety all seasons in the year.

5. The bowels should be regulated by the use of proper medicines, as often as it is necessary, in every case.

In some instances Sir Arthur has found sulphureous fumigation to produce temporary beneficial effects only; but by careful and judicious repetitions, he has rendered them permanent; and whenever the remedy produces languor, it is only transient, and is not attended by any subsequent debility. There can be no danger, therefore, in any case, when the fumigation is of a sufficient temperature, and not of too long a duration. It is a matter of great moment, however, to bear in recollection, that the brain, from its delicacy of organization, is liable to an increased action and fulness of its vessels, while the body is in so high a temperature. If, therefore, the fumigation

should produce considerable headache, or pulsation in the temporal arteries, blood-letting ought to be performed without delay *; and at night some suitable cathartic should be administered; as jalap and calomel, in strong robust constitutions; or calomel, in a moderate portion, followed by some gentle cathartic, in cases which are more delicate.†

In most instances it is proper to take a dose of medicine, and one or two steam or warm baths, previous to submitting the body to the action of the sulphureous fumigation.

The duration of each fumigation may usually be half an hour, and the temperature from 110 to 130 degrees.

The degree of heat, besides the frequency of using the fumigations, and the number necessary for a cure, must vary, according to the age, sex, and constitution of the patient, and the inveteracy of the complaint. They may be perseveringly used every day for a month, or longer; and in bad and complicated cases, may be repeated three or four times a day.

Exercise in the open air, after each fumigation, when the strength of the patient, and the state of the weather will permit, is refreshing and invigorating, and is preferable to rest, or going in a carriage.

The sulphureous fumigations, like all other powerful remedies, should not be used, except under the directions of a medical man, or an intelligent attendant of practical experience, as great mischief may arise from its abuse or misapplication.

GOUT, &c.—Mr. Bamfield, a respectable surgeon of London, has published some valuable remarks on the use and abuse of colchicum. In cases of dropsy, (for which it was extolled as a remedy by the Antients, on account of its diuretic properties,) Mr. Bamfield has witnessed very injurious effects; but, in cases of gout and rheumatism, he has not observed any bad consequences. In gout, he had uniformly found it to prove satisfactory. Mr. Bamfield, like many other practitioners of observation, disapproves of the use of the remedy, directly on the invasion of gout; for when checked on the first attack, the constitution is not left in so vigorous a state as it is after a long attack.—He therefore recommends the gouty fit to continue a few days before the use of the colchicum. A gouty subject, who had used the colchicum wine five years, has found this opinion to be correct; and when the paroxysm recurred in May last, he suffered it to take an uninterrupted course for five days, and then terminated it by successive doses of sixty drops of the colchicum seed wine. The result was, his health became restored as perfectly as after any former attack.

---

* In robust constitutions, blood should be immediately taken from the arm, as soon as the patient comes out of the bath. In delicate subjects, cupping and scarifying the nape of the neck may answer.

† In robust cases, from 8 to 10 grains of calomel, to 15 or 20 of jalap. In delicate cases, from 2 to 3 grains of calomel at bed-time, and a table-spoonful of castor oil, or half an ounce of Epsom salt, the following morning, or three or four hours after taking the calomel.

"Two great benefits," says Mr. Bamfield, "arising from the speedy cure of the gouty paroxysm, may be boldly claimed, and adduced for the consideration of the opponents of this method of cure: the first is, that it scarcely allows any time for the chance of such a dangerous, and often fatal, occurrence as retrocedent gout, with which the protracted duration of the disease menaces the patient, at all periods of its course; as is evinced in the Hon. V. G.'s case. The second is, that it prevents the formation of chalk-stones. W. B. (Case 9,) had almost all the joints of his fingers disabled and distorted by their successive growth; but since the treatment by the colchicum wine was adopted in 1817, the disposition to form them has been removed; nor has this disposition appeared in any of my patients, who have been cured by the wine."

Dr. Scudamore, a few years ago, published a large volume on gout, for the purpose of applying to it the chylopoietic, or gastro-hepatic doctrines of Mr. Abernethy, which has lately formed the basis of several works on opposite diseases. No doctrine was ever so quacked as that of Mr. Abernethy. With regard to the Abernethian system, as applicable to gout, Mr. Bamfield has made some very pertinent remarks. "In gout," says he, "many general and particular objections may be reasonably urged against its correctness, even if Dr. Scudamore's definitions of the proximate cause of disease in general, and of gout in particular, be selected to regulate the discussion"

"The proximate cause of a disease," says he, "must not only be something which is *invariably antecedent*, but also that which is *distinctly peculiar* to such disease."—P. 130. And he remarks, "We are now brought to the general conclusion, that gout is a disease depending upon a redundancy of blood, with relation to the powers of the circulation, particularly affecting the system of the vena portarum, and the consequent functions of the liver, together with the production of a morbid change in the secreted products of the alimentary canal in general, and of the kidneys in particular." It may be observed, that gouty subjects generally possess strong digestive functions, and athletic forms, whilst the habitual dyspeptics are seldom subject to gout. Mr. Lewis, an old martyr to gout, and Mr. Short, his surgeon, write me from Warwickshire, that I may look in vain to deranged digestive functions for the cause of his long and frequent attacks of gout. The morbid change of the secreted products of the alimentary canal and kidneys, and derangement of the hepatic functions, are not "distinctly peculiar" to gout, but occur in all diseases of the class of fevers. Nor are those visceral derangements of functions "invariably antecedent" to gout. A patient of mine fell from his horse, and on the same day became attacked with gout. Captain H—n is often invaded suddenly by gout after getting wet or enduring fatigue; and he assures me, *his appetite and digestion are more vigorous during the arthritic paroxysm than at any other time.* Mr. R. wore a tight boot, which irritated his great toe, and on the following night the gout supervened. In these and such cases there was no "antecedence" of deranged

chylopoietic viscera. Besides, in the treatment of gout by the colchicum wine, I have never prescribed any medicine to correct, regulate, or improve, the digestive functions, except to obviate constipation when present; yet, if they have been partially or wholly deranged by symptomatic fever, they have always recovered as soon as after any other febrile disease. W. Bunker (Case 9,) was emaciated and dyspeptic from being confined half the year to bed by gout; but, since the cure by colchicum has been adopted, he has become stout and corpulent, and never complains of indigestion.

"In the constitutional treatment of all the local diseases mentioned by Mr. Abernethy and others, we do not possess any other means of curing the local diseases, except by such medicines as regulate and improve the digestive functions: in gout, on the contrary, we can speedily remove the local disease, without paying any further attention to the digestive organs than to obviate constipation, which experience convinces us we could not effect, if the local disease depended upon, and were caused by, the constitutional derangement of the digestive processes.

"Although I have availed myself of leeches and purgatives, there is no doubt left in my mind of the colchicum wine having been the principal agent in carrying off the gouty paroxysm."

Mr. Bamfield has published eleven cases, to illustrate the specific operation of the colchicum wine on gout.

"It should be observed," says Mr. Bamfield, "that Dr. Scudamore's treatment and mine are similar in effect, as both cure the paroxysm of gout in a few days, and that I have been induced to attribute this effect to the same remedy; but the inference might appear to be drawn from a negative proof alone, as I have only denied that this draught will cure gout in a few days, *if the* colchicum vinegar be withdrawn from it. This negative proof may not be satisfactory, unless it be coupled with a positive one, that colchicum vinegar will cure gout, without the other ingredients of his draught. To ascertain this, I gave Mrs. Jackson a draught of colchicum vinegar and peppermint water, of each six drachms, three nights in succession, and the paroxysm was carried off. In one of W. Bunker's attacks, whose gouty habit has been noticed, I gave him an ounce of each, and in four nights the paroxysm was carried off; but he complained of its having given him pains in the bowels, and that 'it did not carry off gout so pleasantly as the other medicine,' meaning the wine; nor would he take it again. I therefore desisted from further experiment.

"Dr. Scudamore further denies, that colchicum possesses either specific virtues or operation in the gout, p. 193; yet, if Dr. Parr's definition of a specific be admitted, both must be assigned to it; for, without doubt, 'it is peculiarly adapted to curing the gouty paroxysm;' but no medical practitioner has been so absurd as to claim for the colchicum the property of curing deranged liver or digestive functions, not even if they should ensue from an attack of gout."

The alcaline colchicum seed wine, as recommended by Dr. Williams, of Ipswich, unquestionably possesses a very important

advantage over the wine of the root; particularly in being free from the glutinous matter, which is deposited in the latter, and which produces the debilitating effects on the constitution, which have been noticed by many physicians, and by Mr. Bamfield. As to colchicum vinegar, one would suppose that no physician, acquainted with the cause of gout, and particularly one who attributes it to a morbid condition of the stomach and liver, would think of prescribing the colchicum, in conjunction with vinegar, an article which alone is capable of disordering the stomach of a gouty subject.

CHOLERA MORBUS.—Our Correspondent at Madras informs us, that this disease has been prevalent in different parts of the East Indies, and that it has proved very destructive both to Europeans and the natives. A few months ago, a Mr. Boyle, of Plymouth, who styles himself a surgeon, published a Treatise on the Cholera Morbus of India, which he had had an opportunity of witnessing, in consequence of having held the appointment of Surgeon to His Majesty's Ship Minden, during a voyage from Bombay to Cochin. The observations he then made on the treatment of this disease, he originally intended to publish in a Medical Journal; but he found, on finishing his manuscript, that the mass of matter was too great, and therefore could not be admitted without dismembering the narrative of its most essential parts. He therefore made a book of his observations, &c., in which he flatters himself the various and opposite modes of cure, which have been recommended at different times, are detailed, so as to enable his readers to form a just estimate of each remedy. "The Book," says he, "comprises conclusions drawn from each mode of treatment, without even the bias of a *borrowed* opinion." Mr. Boyle has introduced several cases, which, in his opinion, arose from different causes, viz. drunkenness, marsh effluvia, or noxious vapours, constipation, &c., and three to illustrate the *fatal* form of the disease.

In all his cases, the characteristic symptoms of the cholera were absent. The name is derived from the Greek, χολη (bile), and ρεω (luo), and it is defined by all nosologists, to consist in frequent vomiting, and purging of *bilious* matter, attended with great anxiety, griping, and spasms of the legs. Now if the patients were not affected with either bilious vomiting or bilious diarrhœa, purging, (the distinguishing or pathognomonic symptom) the disease could not have been cholera morbus. "But," says Mr. Boyle, "*Doctor* James Johnson, who has also been a surgeon to a ship in the same seas, has proved the fallacy of a prevailing notion, that an increased secretion of bile was the *cause* of this disease. Now no writer, as we know of, has ever asserted such an absurdity, as that of an increased secretion of bile being the *cause* of cholera; for the increased secretion and morbid condition of the bile, with vomiting and purging of bilious matter, constitute the disease; and if they are absent, it cannot be *cholera morbus*. For the honour of the profession, Mr. Boyle is the only one who has condescended to quote this contemptible wholesale dealer in sonorous words. From Mr. Boyle's cases, we select the following, on account of the mode of treatment being particularized, and the appearances, on dissection, minutely noticed:—

"*H. M. S. Minden, at Sea, May* 28, 1820.

"John Wester (S) was suddenly seized at seven o'clock this morning with vomiting and purging, followed by spasms in the legs, thighs, and abdomen. Pulse small, frequent, and feeble; surface covered with a cold clammy perspiration; extremities cold; integuments of the fingers peculiarly shrivelled; with a collapsed countenance, and deep-sunk languid eyes. There was incessant craving for cold drink; and that which was ejected by vomit and stool had a thin, watery appearance, with white flakes swimming on its surface: *no bile.* A scruple of calomel, with forty drops of laudanum, was administered, which was almost immediately rejected. The medicine was repeated, with an *additional* proportion of opium, and again rejected. Pulse now getting up, slight head-ache, spasms very severe, no VIOLENT nor *constant* vomiting, but what is taken into the stomach, as it were, immediately spouted up purposely. Bleeding, to the extent of twenty ounces, was followed by fainting, and a temporary remission of spasm. After this, *arterial* action and the temperature of the surface were much diminished. He was put into the warm bath, warm fomentations, and frictions with volatile and opiate embrocations, &c. applied to the abdomen. The calomel and laudanum were rejected as often as *they* were given; pulse somewhat harder since the bath; but the voice *is now* particularly weak, and he appears to answer questions with difficulty or reluctance. Sweet spirit of nitre, compound spirit of lavender, and tincture of opium, have been given in turn, and a blister was applied over the stomach: still, however, approaching rapidly to a state of stupor and insensibility. When asked how he is, answers, "Very well." Wine was directed for common beverage, till one A. M.; when, distressed with hiccough, and inability to swallow, he expired*."

On examining the viscera of the abdomen, Mr. *Boyle* found the internal surface of the stomach inflamed, exhibiting several very red patches, particularly near the cardiac and pyloric orifices. Contents of the stomach, a dirty greyish fluid, mixed with white flakes. *The calomel which was given was found,* in LARGE quantity, mixed with the fluid, and adhering to the rugæ of the stomach. The small intestines were inflamed in several places, and contained a similar kind of fluid to that of the stomach, Large intestines healthy. *No bile in either.* Liver sound in structure; gall bladder distended with bile, of the consistence of tar, none of which could be pressed through the ductus cysticus; as, near its junction with the ductus hepaticus, it was so thickened and contracted, that a very small probe could not be passed.

Now will any *practitioner*, who has seen a case of real cholera, say that the preceding case was that disease? Was it not rather inflammation of the stomach and intestines? Many, he states, died nine hours after the first attack, notwithstanding the most rigorous

---

* "I am now fully persuaded, that the bleeding in this case was injurious, by obstructing the efforts of nature in an attempt to establish reaction."

perseverance in *established* practice"!! So fair a trial had this *established* practice, that "a patient in His Majesty's ship Minden, took, in repeated doses, upwards of *a quarter of an ounce of calomel, and five hundred drops of tincture of opium*, in the short space of *one* hour, without allaying the irritable state of the stomach!! A clyster, containing a quarter of an ounce of tincture of opium, Mr. Boyle found to arrest all the bad symptoms!!! The *established* practice having failed, Mr. Boyle inquires what was to be done, and what inferences are to be drawn from the result of the said established practice, and from the appearances exhibited on dissection? The inquiry should, in our humble opinion, have been made on the spot, under the authority of a Coroner's Inquest. A poor scribbler, who boasts of having had the *advantage* of sailing all over the ocean, asserts, that he was one of the first who prescribed calomel in drachm doses, combined with opium, and discovered mercury to be a *sedative*, instead of a *stimulus*, as supposed by the profession!! Its sedative effects in such doses, he has no doubt often witnessed; for strong indeed must the patient be, whose constitution does not give way, even in a few hours, to half an ounce of calomel every two hours, with a drachm of opium. The first practitioner who ventured on large doses of calomel in the acute diseases of India, was the late Dr. Yate, of Romford, (formerly of Bengal), who proceeded on something like a scientific principle, and was allowed, by all who knew him, to be a man of science and sound judgment.

In the cases noticed by Mr. Boyle, emetic doses of emetic tartar and ipecacuan powder, evidently proved beneficial. We conclude this article with one of Mr. Boyle's successful cases, which will, no doubt, from such high authority, remove the prejudice existing in the minds of some narrow-minded physicians, against strong punch.

At Trincomalee, Feb. 29th, 1820.

"William Simmonds (S) complained at seven o'clock this morning of purging, griping, nausea, and inability to stand. The pulse was remarkably small and feeble; the skin was cold and moist; and the countenance was much dejected. His evacuations by stool were thin and watery. Severe spasms of the abdominal muscles, with a corrugated appearance of the integuments of the fingers, and every other characteristic symptom of the disease, quickly set in. Took repeated doses of tartarized antimony and ipecacuanha, till full vomiting was effected; and which, by means of drinking warm water, was kept up a considerable time. After this, he drank freely and frequently of strong punch, with a proportionate quantity of tincture of opium and compound spirit of lavender. Reaction, and a settled state of the stomach soon followed, when calomel and other purgatives were regularly persevered in, till copious evacuations were produced. He was able to sit up in twenty-four hours, but remained many days after the attack in a state of debility."

GAMBOGE.—The following article, on gamboge, is from the pen of Mr. Edward Thompson, a respectable surgeon of Whitchurch.

Having lately had an opportunity of seeing the effect of large doses of gamboge, I take the liberty of calling for a moment of attention, respecting its operation. A person sent for me to attend him a few weeks since, who was suffering from palsy of the lower extremities. His limbs, before I saw him, had been very edematous, for which he had been recommended to take pills made up by a woman, celebrated for her "great skill and judgment in the cure of dropsy." The medicine had had the effect of removing the effused serum; but the paralytic affection continued. The limbs were afterwards restored to health under my care, by means of blistering, cupping, &c. I directed him to take frequently the pills prescribed by his late female physician, its action apparently being that of a drastric purgative, operating without griping in the slightest degree, emptying the bowels more effectually, and with less uneasiness, than I had ever observed from any other purgative, with the exception of vomiting, which he said was so easy, that he did not care for it. I procured, after much intreaty, one of the celebrated pills, which the woman told him never failed in curing dropsy. It appeared to be formed altogether of gamboge, held in a mass by oil. It weighed three grains and a half; and allowing the half grain for the oil, which is perhaps too much, the pill therefore contained of gamboge, three grains. He took eight of the pills at a time, thus taking not less than twenty-four grains of gamboge for a dose! this is the smallest dose she is (I am told) in the habit of giving; and in confirmed dropsy far exceeds it, regulating the quantity by the urgency of the symptoms. I examined the pills very minutely, and feel confident, that nothing enters the composition but gamboge and oil.

Gamboge has been for many years a popular remedy for dropsy, and in specific inflammation of the urethra, we have known sailors take it to the extent of forty grains. In cases of dropsy, its emetic effects are as beneficial as its cathartic operation. A composition of the squill pill and gamboge, with such auxiliaries as the state of the general health pointed out, was a very favourite remedy for dropsy with the late Dr. Cam, an eminent physician of Hereford; and in consequence of the good effects we have often witnessed from it during our residences at the Hereford Infirmary, and in our own practice, we have recommended it in the Medical Guide.

PECTORAL ANGINA.—Mr. Marley, of London, has published a case of this disease which suddenly proved fatal. On examining the contents of the chest, he found the heart remarkably small, and the substance very pale and soft. The valves, the coronary artery, and aorta, were more or less ossified. The liver and the other viscera of the abdomen were healthy. "This case," says Mr. Marley, "is *profitable* and *interesting*, as far as the alleviation of symptoms by abstemious diet and attention to the stomach and bowels go; for it shews the impossibility of doing more than palliating the symptoms, except in its early stage, when it may probably be in our power to check its progress. We also (says he) learn the great necessity of guarding against all emotions of the mind as well as violent bodily exertion, and of paying attention to the mode of

living, carefully avoiding every thing which has a tendency to increase the irritability of the nervous system. When the aorta substance of the heart is in a morbid condition, from ossification of the arteries (the coronary) which nourish it, whatever may hurry on the circulation, or disturb the action of the heart, may suddenly terminate life; for if its motion be once stopped, we cannot expect, in such a state of disease, it can be capable of reaction."

YELLOW FEVER.—We have been much amused by a letter in an evening paper, by a medical scribbler (termed in an American Journal, the Literary Chartalan of London) in which, by the most absurd assertions, he endeavours to prove that the yellow fever is not contagious. To this composition of imposing fine-sounding words, M. Chevalier, a Spanish consul, replies, that he can affirm, from *his own* knowledge, that the fever was introduced into Cadiz by a ship from Philadelphia, on board of which a person had died during the voyage. Senor Larrea, another Spanish consul residing in this country, states, that the disease was conveyed to Malaga by a vessel from St. Domingo, which, by the interference of a set of interested people, who, from the writings of a medical Charlatan, believed that it was not contagious, was excused from quarantine, though it was well known the disease was on board at the time. From Malaga the fever spread in the following year (1804) to Gibraltar, where 6000 people fell victims to it. If the fever was on board the ship, or prevailed in the place from whence it sailed, and never appeared before in the place to which the ship arrived, can the source or contagious nature of the disease be doubted by a man capable of observation? There are however some merchants in the enlightened city of London, that have been convinced by the contemptible productions of some wild theorists, that the plague and yellow fever are *not* contagious, and that the quarantine laws are consequently unnecessary!!! In the 'El Universel,' a mixture of thirty-five drops of nitric acid and twelve ounces of spring water, taken in the quantity of two ounces three times a day, is highly extolled as a preventive of yellow fever.

IODINE.—The tincture of this article, which has been found so beneficial in the cure of scrofula, is made by dissolving twelve grains of the German Iodine in an ounce of alcohol. The German article is not only cheaper, but much more pure and volatile than that which is prepared in this country. A quantity has been forwarded to us by a respectable German chemist, that it may have a fair trial in scrofula and wen in this country.

GOUT LINIMENT.—The liniment we have frequently recommended for allaying gouty irritation and inflammation, is made by adding, *gradatim*, forty drops of sulphuric acid to an ounce and a quarter of olive oil; and after being well shaken, and standing a quarter of an hour, making a further addition of two drachms of the spirit of tar or of turpentine.

RHEUMATISM.—A gentleman who has been a great sufferer from rheumatism for thirty years, informs us that he is now enjoying comparatively good health in consequence of taking regularly three

times a day, twenty drops of the colchicum seed wine with four drops of laudanum in a glass of barley water three times a day. This composition has subdued the rheumatic affections, and he flatters himself that by regular perseverance in its use for many months, he will destroy the predisposition of his constitution to the disease.

LOCK JAW.—A young man, aged about seventeen, servant to Dr. Caton, lately died of this disease. It followed a bruise he received on the temple, from a fall. In consequence of our absence from town, Mr. Cline was requested to see him. After looking at him, and hearing the history of his accident, he observed, that it was one of those cases, one out of twenty of which recovers. Although he was incapable of opening his mouth, he ordered a purgative bolus, which, of course, could not be introduced into the stomach. He also prescribed a lavement of decoction of tobacco, which was administered. He died the following day. We are at a loss to conjecture on what principle this experienced surgeon ordered a tobacco clyster. Was it as an antispasmodic? When tobacco infusion or vapour is injected into the rectum, it uniformly produces considerable determination of blood to the head, and greatly disturbs the nervous system. In some cases of strangulated rupture, the patients died soon after the tobacco smoke was forced up the rectum. Mr. Cline paid no attention to the wound. Now had the wound been enlarged by the scalpel, under the idea that a nerve was partially divided or contused, and the treatment recommended by Dr. Reid, of Dublin, been adopted, viz.—of producing inflammation over the vertebræ, either by blistering or a powerful stimulus, as the strongest water of ammonia, and the body been frequently put into warm water,—would not the unfortunate boy have stood a better chance of recovery? It is a fact, that notwithstanding some surgeons of hospitals, and in great practice, know that their modes of treating this disease have never succeeded, they disregard the discoveries and suggestion of others. The case is, many practitioners are so much occupied in taking fees and talking nonsense to their patients, that they have not time to attend to what is going on in the medical world, and the only use they make of the periodical works on medicine, is to place them on their tables, to lead their patients to suppose that they are acquainted with the discoveries that are made in medicine.

SANGUINEOUS TUMOUR.—The following observation on the tumour noticed under this head, in our present Number, (page 1146) has been omitted in that article, in consequence of having been misplaced:—"It appears to us from the circumstances of the tumour being so little reduced by the puncture, and the small quantity of blood which escaped, that it was a case of *fungus hæmatodes*. If so, would the treatment by seton have succeeded in curing it? We believe a seton has not been employed in a case of fungus hæmatodes."

ASTHMA.—Mr. Ward, a surgeon of Maidenhead, has employed the tar fumigation (as recommended for pulmonary consumption in a late Number of our work) with great success in asthma. In the two first cases it afforded a degree of relief far beyond his most san-

guine expectation; and, in the other trials he made of it, it proved very beneficial. The vapour, on being received into the windpipe, removes the distressing sense of oppression and suffocation, which is almost immediately followed by a free expectoration. In cases of pulmonary consumption, much caution is necessary in the employment of this remedy. The vapour of the essential oil of tar, we have found to excite cough and increase the inflammatory symptoms; and, in some instances, when taken into the lungs at a high degree of temperature, has produced spitting of blood. Pitch being free from a volatile oil, is less stimulating. An addition of bees' wax renders the vapour much more mild, and the vapour of this composition we have found very beneficial in cases of diseased lungs, evidently correcting the secretion from the lungs, allaying cough, and producing freedom of breathing. The vapour of this composition must not be inhaled so closely from the vessel in which ingredients are boiled, as recommended by Dr. Crichton and others. When the windpipe is very irritable, and the patient feverish, the vapour should not only be inhaled in a cool state, but diluted with atmospheric air, by diffusing it in the air with the hand at about the distance of a yard from the vessel. The best method of using this vapour, is by simmering it in a pannican over a lamp. A simple and cheap apparatus for this purpose may be obtained at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly.

GRAVEL.—An elderly clergyman informs us that he has taken an infusion of the buchu leaves with complete success, for a disease of the kidneys of long standing, attended with gravel, which was sometimes red, but generally white. The pain in the back began to diminish after taking the infusion four days. In about six days the urine exhibited a very healthy appearance, the affection of the kidneys gradually diminished, and, in a short time ceased, with the irritability of the bladder and urethra, which his physician and surgeon attributed to a very diseased state of the prostrate gland. It also improved the state of his digestive organs. The infusion he made by steeping half an ounce of the buchu leaves in a pint of boiling water for two hours, in a closely covered vessel. Of the strained liquor he took a small wine-glassful three times a day.

REPORT OF DISEASES.—In consequence of the prevalence of rain, and the vicissitudes in the temperature of the atmosphere, acute rheumatism, catarrh, and mild scarlet fever have been very prevalent. As a remdy for rheumatism, the alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds maintains the high character given it by Drs. Williams, Uwins, and others. The scarlet fever has been unusually mild, and also catarrh, requiring no other treatment than an aperient, the saline mixture, and low regimen. For simple or catarrhal cough, long experience has proved the lettuce lozenge, noticed in an early number, to be a most valuable remedy. In many cases of chronic cough, with all the symptoms attendant on pulmonary consumption, the oxymel, impregnated with the extract of the hedge hyssop, (noticed in a late Number) has been administered with complete success. As a remedy for asthma, which has been very prevalent, we continue to prescribe the oxymel of the colchicum seeds with the most decided

advantage. Typhus fever has appeared in different parts of London, even in the most open street at the west end, and has proved fatal to many children, in consequence of the lungs and bowels becoming affected with inflammation in an advanced stage, probably of a peculiar chronic nature; or, perhaps, from being seated in the internal lining of the bronchial ramifications and intestines. In some instances deep sloughing has followed the application of a blister. Of the specific effects of Iodine (tincture) we have received the most favourable reports from different parts of this country, and from Germany. The tincture of Lupulin has had a very extensive trial in this country, in cases of irritative dyspepsia, or indigestion of gouty subjects, and the communications we have received, and the effects we have witnessed, confirm the high character some American physicians have given it, as a remedy for this disease. Many gouty subjects, in consequence of having escaped the paroxysm to which they had been subject annually, attribute to it an antiarthritic property. They also substituted the composition of herbs, recommended in some late numbers for breakfast and supper. In favour of this composition, as a preventive of indigestion, asthma, and rheumatism, we have reciveed several testimonies.

RESPIRATION.—The following are the results of the very interesting experiments made by Messrs. Allen and Pepys, in order to ascertain if the red particles of blood do attract oxygen (vital air) from the atmospheric air during inspiration, as asserted by Beddoes, Crawford, and others. We are induced to publish them, although the experiments were made, and the results given, in a philosophical work about twelve years ago, because we find many of our readers are not acquainted with them:—

"1. The inspired atmospheric air imparts none of *its oxygen* or nitrogen to the blood.

"2. The blood loses a principle, viz. carbon, which, by its union with oxygen of the inhaled air, forms carbonic acid gas.

"3. The watery vapour found in expired air, is the serous discharge of the bronchial tubes.

"4. The blood seems to derive heat from the decomposition of the inspired air, all the latent heat of the oxygen gas not being necessary to the formation of carbonic acid gas.

"5. The dark colour of the venous blood is owing to its being surcharged with charcoal; and the bright scarlet colour of the arterial blood, to its parting with charcoal during the process of breathing."

It may be added that the volume of the newly-formed carbonic acid gas, amounts to four-and-a-half to eight per cent. of the whole elastic mass; which, however, is modified by circumstances, as Dr. Prout has shown: the quantity of carbonic acid gas is diminished, for instance, when mercury or spirits have been used.

It is computed that an ordinary person consumes about 46,000 cubic inches of oxygen daily, and that there are twenty respirations every minute.

By far the most interesting remarks on the elasticity of the

lungs and mechanism of respiration, are contained in an excellent paper by Dr. Carson, published in the transactions of the Royal Society for 1820, Part I. p. 29, &c.

This ingenious author found that a column of water, of one and a half foot high, was not a counterpart to the resilience of the lungs of an ox at their usual dilation. In calves, sheep, and large dogs, this elasticity is estimated by the pressure of a column of water, from one to one and a half foot high; and in rabbits and cats, as counterbalanced by six to ten inches of water.

Breathing, therefore, Dr. Carson very properly ascribes to an interminable combat between the resilience of the lungs and the irritability of the muscular fibre of the diaphragm, &c. We have here displayed to us a simple but beautiful machinery, "by which the heart and diaphragm, and, perhaps, various other organs, are as necessarily and as effectively influenced as the piston of the steam engine by the expansive powers of steam.

"Two powers," adds Dr. C. "are therefore concerned in regulating the movements, and in varying the dimensions and form of the diaphragm; the elasticity of the lungs, and the contractile power of the muscular fibres of the diaphragm. Of these powers, the one is permanent and equable, the other, variable and exerted atintervals. The contractile power of the diaphragm, when fully exerted, is evidently much stronger than its antagonist, the resilience of the lungs; but the latter, not being subject to exhaustion, takes advantage of the necessary relaxations of the former, and rebounding, like the stone of Sisyphus, recovers its lost ground, and renews the toil of its more powerful opponent."

Thus has Dr. Carson given us a most interesting account of one of the most important organs of vital frame. It bears the signet of experiment, and has, in its features, much that looks like truth. The continuous attacks of the exhaustless, though weaker assailant, rouse the more gigantic, but intermittent repelled energies of its opponent: it is a war offensive and defensive. Thus does the contest continue for life with equal success, and, at its close, remains a drawn battle.

In our next Number, we purpose giving an account of some experiments we have made on rabbits, and on blood, for the purpose of ascertaining the effects of oxygen on the blood, muscular action, &c. &c.

QUACKERY, *(continued from p.* 1125*).*—A *Doctor* Beaumont, in imitation of a certain set of irregular quacks, has announced, by hand bills, the establishment of a "Medical Institution," by him, for the purpose of "*preventing quackery.*" At this *benevolent* institution, the *Doctor* states, he "gives advice in all cases of physic and surgery, and holds consultations twice a week in difficult and *dangerous* complaints." "The London hospitals (he says) have been crowded, from the *ignorance* of *gentlemen* conducting QUACK establishments." Independent of "turning the attention of invalids from such *unfeeling pretenders*, this grand institution will wonderfully relieve all the hospitals."!! The learned doctor states in his address, that he cures blindness, lameness, *and* deafness; dropsy

without tapping; white swelling, king's evil, jaundice, and ulcerated wounds, *without plaister;* gravel and stone *without cutting;* cancer, leprosy, and fistulas, *without surgical operation:* and also wens on *any part of the body cured in a most surprising manner.* Fits in the old and young, if of ever so long standing, *effectually cured by the virtues of herbs.* Cold caught in lying-in, which brings on trembling in the nerves, swimming in the head, shortness of breath, coughs, and many other disorders, too tedious to enumerate in a bill." This learned address concludes with the following *N. B.* Patients unacquainted with the nature of their complaints, by sending their *morning* urine, the doctor will *honourably* inform them whether curable or not. The doctor will publish monthly, a list of his cures; and no letters received, unless post paid. "On Saturdays only, advice is given *gratis.*"!! Another "Medical Institution" is established in the neighbourhood of Leicester Square, for the same *benevolent* purpose of *suppressing quackery;* and a grand West London Medical Establishment by Drs. C. and J. Jordan!! We have repeatedly directed the attention of our Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons to these establishments. The open manner, in which quackery is now carried on in this metropolis, and the impositions which are daily practised, by pretenders, on the unwary with impunity, is not only disgraceful to the colleges, but to the legislature. Why have the colleges not inquired into their qualifications to exercise the healing art within their jurisdiction, and by what authority they style themselves *Doctors?* We lately met with a weak man, possessed of a little property, who took medicine from a pretender, to the amount of nearly two hundred pounds in the course of a few months, for a complaint which existed only in his imagination!! Others have been induced to pay excessive demands, sooner than have their names exposed by law proceedings, which some pettifogging attorneys had threatened. The charges of the advertising pretender are twenty times higher than those of the regular profession; for where the latter charges a shilling, the former charges a pound. The demand of ten pounds from a servant is by them considered very moderate for an advance; and many a servant has even pawned his wearing apparel, or robbed his master, to raise money to get cured of a disease, which was probably only imaginary; but which, for the purpose of extorting money, was not only confirmed by the learned doctors, but the ravages it would commit on the constitution greatly magnified. It is indeed cruel in the extreme to allow these wretches to tamper with the lives and happiness of the ignorant with impunity. We hope that the police magistrates will direct a little of their attention to these "medical institutions," established for the prevention of quackery, and the cure of dangerous disorders!!!

We shall continue our remarks on modern quackery in the next number.

COCKLE'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—We have authority to state, that neither the venerable Bishop of St. Asaph, nor Sir William Rowley, Bart., M.P., has taken this nostrum, or authorised Mr. Cockle to make use of their names. In our next number, we intend to give an analysis of this composition, &c. &c.

GENERAL INDEX

TO THE

Second Series,

VIZ.

THE FOURTH, FIFTH, AND SIXTH VOLUMES.

A.

Page

Abscess of a female breast, remarks on, by Mr. Brown of Edinburgh .. 1077
Abscesses, vermicular 816
Abstinence from food, case of 472
——— by a hypochondriac 1137
Acid, oxalic, fatal effects of 34
—— prussic, efficacy of in pulmonary consumption 38
——— properties of 127, 265
——— directions for making 128
—— pyrolignous, its properties in preserving animal food 160
—— lignic, purified 238
—— prussic 559
——— by Dr. Elliotson 633
—— pyrolignous, the antiseptic properties of 644
—— acetic, by Mr. Sutliffe 682
—— prussic, by Dr. M'Leod 1117
—— pyrolignous, of meats preserved by 869, 1000, 1030
Action by a quack for remuneration for attendance 169
Adams, Sir William, on opthaltic drops 296
Advertisers of superior advice .. 494, 591
Agriculture 869
Ague, receipts for, by Dr. Wesner .. 682
Ainslie, Dr., memoirs of 145
Air-pump vapour bath, effects of, by Dr. Blagborough and D. Wilson, Esq. 192
——— remarks on, by M. La Beaume 364
——— remarks on.. 532
Albin's chilblain wash 112
Aldis's (surgeon) treatment of cancer 600
Ale and beer, instructions for making cheap 175
Alkali, new vegetable 15
——— caustic 611
Alum, means of detecting it in wine, 867
Alumine, effects of, in chronic diarrhœa 557
Analysis of the chalybeate water at Brighton 622

Page

Anatomy of the ear 78
Amulets, receipt for 840
Animation, suspended, by Dr. Stevens 264
Aneurism, cure of by pressure 31
——— of the carotid artery ..73, 1052
——— by surgeon Walker..... 851
Antimonial powders, experiments with them..... 636
Apoplexy, remarks on 307
——— nature of 439
——— supposed case of 1089
Apparatus, description of a new cupping 366
——— new gas-light.....
Arnold's balsam of Coltsfoot, ... 48
Arsenic, poisoning from 160, 327
Arteries, treatment of wounded 298
Arts, medical, at Brighton 747
Asthma, winter cough, &c., remedy for 702
——— the effects of yawning on .. 707
——— successful treatment of 1157
Asylum (deaf and dumb) Mr. Wright's letter to the Committee of..... 235
Augerena, pectoral, case of, with remarks 1154
Avoy, Miss Mac, remarks on 42
Ayre, Dr., his book on bilious complaints 977

B.

Bacon, D. H. Esq. on Hunter's theory 565
Baillie's (Dr.) prescription for the morbid irritation of the bladder 39
Bain, Dr., biographical sketch of .. 593
Baldness, remedy for..... 1076
Balfour on rheumatism..... 793
Balsam of life, by De Verlangin 392
Bandages, abdominal, advantages of 78
———. female abdominal, remarks on..... 266
Barclay, parson, his theory 740
Bark, Peruvian, effects of..... 331
Baron, Dr., on tubercles 500
Bateman, Dr., remarks on typhus.. 1
——— pectoral drops 807

Page

Bath, Dr., on passive hæmorrhages 394
Bathing, by Sir Arthur Clarke, M.D. &c. 65
Battley's account of sarsaparilla 91
Beef, &c. methods of pickling it.... 399
Beer, new mode of making 80
—— table, receipt for making it cheap 463
—— bottled, remarks on 591
—— table, the method of bottling.. 654
Bees, remarks on 203
Beetroot, remarks on 203
Bellott, Mr., on inflammation..... 417
Biography, living 48, 841, 905
Birkbeck, Dr., biographical sketch of 377
Blagborough's (Dr.) remarks on galvanism and air-pump vapour bath 192
Blane, Sir Gilbert, Bart, M.D. &c. biographical sketch of 273
———————— on cow-pox 404
———————— his treatment of watery head, new mode,.. 1113
Bleeding, topical 330
Blisters, on the application of, to children 940
Blood-letting, by Dr. Dods 552
Blood, transfusion of, by a syringe.. 69
——— red particles of 143
——— on the buffy appearance of.. 505
Boel's powder, composition of, for weakness of sight 816
Bordd, Professor, his treatment of pulmonary consumption 997
———————— hooping cough *ibid*
———————— dysentery 998
Bottles, remarks on cleaning them.. 333
Box, poisonous effects on pigs..... 175
Bradley, Dr., his remarks on croaking of the bowels 29
Brain, inflammation of the 352
——— concussion of the, by surgeon Wansborough..... 759
Brande, Dr. his remedy for gravel.. 140
Breast, female, amputation of..... 748
Brentford dispensary, letter on 1030
Bresmer, Dr., his remarks on worms 790
Brighton, remarks on a medical combination at 159
——— medical arts 747
Brodie, Mr. his case of fatal loss of blood on extraction of a tooth 165
———————— and Dr. Phillip, controversy between..... 480
Buchu leaves, effects of..... 799
———————— as a remedy for rheumatism 812
———————— further remarks on .. 864
Bugs, means of destroying 936
Buonaparté, Napoleon, case of 1011
———————— appearance of him on dissection 1013
———————— remarks on Dr. O'Meara's opinion as to the disease which occasioned his death 1017
———————— case of 1047
Burns and scalds, new treatment of 557
Bush, Mr., on scrofulous abscess.... 384

Page

Buxton, Dr., his remarks on diabetes 724
———————— biographical sketch of .. 777

C.

Calumny exposed 718
Canadian pile ointment 869, 1032
Cancer, remedy for 368
——— treatment of, by surgeon Aldis 600
——— new mode of treatment of.. 930
Canine madness, remarks on 851
Carlisle, Professor, biographical sketch of 733
Case of her late Majesty 1046
Casks, musty, the method of sweetening them 591
Catgut, on the manufactory of 968
Caustic, alkali 611
Cayroche, Dr., on incision into the stomach 386
Cements, pantiles, &c. receipt for .. 866
Charcoal, use in poison by arsenic .. 13
——— finely powdered, the effects of in preventing and removing inflammation and pain 1076
Cheese, the colouring of 94
——— ingredients used in colouring of 143
Cheltenham waters 580, 604
Chesnut tree, remarks on..... 832
Chilblains, mode of preventing 299
——— wash, by Albin..... 112
——— remedy for 425, 812
Children, young, the management of 648
——— instructions for feeding and clothing them..... 677
Cholera morbus, treatment of, by Dr. Vaughan 253, 1151
Cider, substitute for 239
——— remarks on the Herefordshire 653
——— Mr. Crawford's letter on 720
Clarke, Sir Arthur, M. D., &c. on bathing 65
———————— on the diseases of infants 506
Cockle, Mr., his antibilious pills.... 1160
Coffee, cheap substitute for 462
Colchicum, Mr. Haden's, treatise of the 738
———————— seeds, by Dr. Williams.. 785
———————— a description of the true 814
———————— time of collecting 996
College of Physicians, proceedings against Drs. Dick, Adam, Clarke, and others 56
———————— ———— of London .. 1001
———————— Surgeons, remarks on certain receipts of 647
———————— in London.... 969
Collingwood, Mr., on typhus..... 386
Coltsfoot, Arnold's balsam of 48
Combustion of the human body, spontaneous 42
Complaints, bilious, &c. 956
Consistency, college 526
Constipation, obstinate 319
Consumption, pulmonary, effects of tar vapour in 78

Page

Consumption, pulmonary, efficacy of prussic acid in 38
——— effects of atmospheric pressure on.....87, 150
——— by Harke . 528
——— cured by galvanism 644
——— new method of treatment of 916
Cooke, Dr., on the promotion of medical science 379
——— on palsy 780
Cooper, A. and Co.'s surgical reports 571
——— second part of surgical wonders ..... *ibid*
Corn..... 748
Cough, periodical, successful treatment of 614
——— winter, asthma, &c. remedy for 702
——— cured by colchicum seeds..... 739
Cournet, Dr., on the German sausages 1080
Courtenay, Mrs., Mr. Woodcock's vindication of 528
Cow-pox, remarks on 84
——— by Dr. Pew.... 164
——— letter from Dr. Latham to Lord Sidmouth on 235
——— fatal termination of 261
——— remarks on 316, 324
——— by Sir Gilbert Blane 404
——— as a preventive of small-pox 1086
——— observations on, by Mr. Shipman 1088
——— Failure of 925
Cramp in the legs, remedy for..... 174
Cream, cold, receipt for making 1128
Croaking of the bowels, by Dr. Bradley 29
Croton tiglium, oil of, as a cathartic 1079
——— oil 1140
Croup 35
——— treatment of 939
Crying, on the effects of 369
Cubebs, medicinal properties of 174
Cundles, Dr., on improved balsam of honey 111
Cupping, with instructions for operating, by Mr. Mapleson 858
Curry, Dr., biographical sketch of .. 209
Cyclopædia, family, recommendation of 931

D.

De Berri, late duke 437
Deafness, remedy for, by Mr. Wright 78
——— cured by galvanism, by M. La Beaume 279
——— letter on..... 43
——— second letter on 44
——— reply to Mr. Wright on .. 222

Page

Deafness, reply to Chemicus on, by Mr. Wright..... 240
——— on the species of, by Mr. Earle 414
——— report of 655, 801
——— on a pretended specific for 962
Death by excessive bleeding by leeches 35
——— sudden, case of 1050
Debility cured..... 89
——— nervous, cured by electricity 589
De Sanctis, Dr., on Professor Adini's galvanic apparatus..... 277
——— on galvanism .. 359, 422, 442, 519
——— his improved galvanic apparatus 444
Description of an instrument for contracted limbs 1057
Dessairs, Dr., his treatment of diabetes..... 420
De Velno's vegetable syrup 687
De Verlangeu's balsam of life 392
Diabetes, by Dr. Maclean..... 140
——— treatment of, by Dr. Dessairs..... 420
——— case of, by Dr. Buxton.... 724
Diarrhœa and dysentery, treatment of, by Dr. Ficinnus 442
——— chronic, case of..... 621
Diet, adulterative articles of 445
Diseases, natural classification of, by Dr. Reid 22
——— varioloid 45
——— report of 271, 304
——— and physiology of the organs of hearing 60
——— of the Cape of Good Hope 392
——— of the poor, by Dr. O'Brien 411
——— report of..... 438
——— of the ear, by Mr. Wright 441
——— of infancy, by Sir A. Clarke 506
——— pestilential, by Mr. Hancock 518
——— report of, in Berlin 762
——— reports of 805, 1157
Disorders, bilious and nervous..... 802
Dispensaries, tricks in the management of 961
——— observations on..... 934
Dods' (Dr.) remarks on blood-letting 552
——— Physician's Guide 1033
Drinking of cold water, remarks on 648
Drops, opthalmic, by Sir William Adams 296
Dropsy of the head, by Dr. Yeates .. 122
——— by Dr. Gregory 229
——— of the chest, remedy for 233
——— cure of 322
——— cured by bleeding 348
Drugs, new names for 800
Duke of Kent, case of the 436
Duncan's (Dr.) Sen. remarks on the lettuce opium..... 849
Dysentery, effects of the internal bark of elm in..... 385
——— and Diarrhœa, treatment of, by Dr. Ficinnus 442

E.

Page.

Ear, the anatomy of 78
—— diseases of, by Mr. Wright 441
Earle, Mr. on the species of deafness. 414
Eggs, poisoned, remarks on 204
—— the white of, as an antidote to corrosive sublimate 951
Embalming, new process of 79
Empirical book and theories 773
Empiricism, irregular 296
Empirico mastic, or quackery 829
Enamel, purple, receipts for 203
Epilepsy, maniacal, by Dr. Mills 63
——— cure of, by application of a live pigeon 233
——— by Mr. Mansford 256
——— new mode of treatment of. 368
——— treatment of, by Professor Halle 661
——— cure of 541
Error, correction of 464
——— respecting Mrs. Griffiths 718
——— of judgment, instances of 933
Erysipelas cured by strong mercurial ointment, by Dr. Little 1074
Erysipelatous inflammation, remedy for 93
Evidences of the existence of a soul, and of a future state 186
Eye, rheumatic inflammation of 366

F.

Faithborn, Mr. and his patient, remarks on the correspondence between 155
——— correspondence between 95
——— Dr. his book 741
Farmer, Surgeon, on different species of head-ache 1042
Farquhar, Sir Walter, M. D. memoirs of 81
——— and the late Dr. Warren, comparison between 113
Farre, John Richard, Dr. biographical sketch of 241
Fayerman, Surgeon, on phagedænic ulcer 801
Fee Trade 396
Ficinnus, Dr. on dysentery and diarrhœa, treatment of 442
Filtration of water 94
Ferns, Dr. biographical sketch of .. 177
Flagellation, with nettles, the effects of in a case of partial palsy 1069
Flatulence, gastric, causes, &c. new method of treatment of 920, 948
Flies, means of keeping them off 267
—— in green houses, means of destroying them 462
Flood and Co.'s (Messrs.) remedy for gout, &c. 110
Fluid, galvanic, effects of 74
Fluor Albus, gleet, &c. 442
Fluor Albus, remedy for 930
Fly, the means of destroying 204
——in turnips, remarks on 332
——— means of destroying them 462
Fomentations, use of 392
Fosbrook and Wright, remarks on secondary small pox 197
Frogs, means of destroying them 267
Fumigation, sulphurous, by Dr. Hart 250
——— remarks on, by J. Power, Esq. 220
——— sulphurous, observations on, by Sir A. Clarke 1089
———sulphurous 1146

G.

Gaitskill, surgeon, on small pox subsequent to cow pox 260
——— on palsy 385
Gall and Spurzheim, Drs. on their system of craniology 110
Galvanic fluid, effects of 74
Galvanism, letter from the Rev. Mr. Martin to M. La Beaume 36
——— Mr. Henry to ditto 37
———effects of, by Dr. Blagborough, and D. Wilson, Esq. 192
———sciatica cured by 254
———by Dr. Bostock 6, 35
———by Professor Adiul 244
———remarks on 312
———by Dr. de Sanctis 359
———continued 422
———and fictitious airs 427
———by Dr. De Sanctis 519
———on the effects of, by M. La Beaume 698
———indigestion cured by 732
———baneful effects of, in derangement of the stomach 954
———treatise on, by Surgeon Price 1054
Game, dead, means of preserving ... 393
Gas, effects of, in hooping cough .. 442
———in hoarseness 888
Gleet, fluor albus, &c. remedy for ... 704
Gout, &c. Messrs. Flood and Co.'s remedy for 110
——— remedy for 389
——— rheumatic, remedy for 390
——— tincture 425
——— Dr. Scudamore's book on . 522
——— and rheumatism, remedy for 701
——— successful treatment of 737
——— and rheumatism cured by the alkaline wine of the meadow saffron seeds 737
——— cordial, receipt for 798
——— remarks on 813
——— the treatment of 926
——— remedy for 1077

	Page
Gout and rheumatism, cured by wine of the colchicum seeds, by Dr. Uwins	1115
——— the effects of colchicum seed wine, by Surgeon Bampfield	1148
——— liniment, receipt for making	1155
——— nostrum, fatal effects of	840
Gravel, remedy for, by Mr. Brande	140
——— white, remedy for	224
——— remedy for	368
——— red, successful treatment of	916
——— successful treatment of	1157
Gregory, Dr. on dropsy	229
——— on inflammation	969
Gurney, Mr., his address to the special jury in favour of Mr. Rymer	874
——— his address, observations on	884
Gutta Serena, Dr. Veitch's treatment of	924
——— successfully treated by galvanism, by M. La Beaume	1023

H.

Haden, Mr., his treatise of the colchicum	738
Hadfield's original tincture	240
Hadley's convulsion powders	1090
Hæmorrhage, uterine, tyeatment of	89
——— passive, by Dr. Bath	394
Haighton, J. Dr., biographical sketch of	657
Hair, on the growth, preservation, &c. of	1074
Hairy tumours	365
Hall's (Dr.), remarks on Indigestion	25
Halle, Professor, his treatment of epilepsy	441
Hamilton, Mr., on blood-letting in mania	418
Hancock, Dr., on pestilential diseases	518
Hare, Mr., his treatise on bilious complaints	981
Hare-lip	797
Harke on pulmonary consumption	528
Hart, Dr. Theodore, remedy for palsy	91
——— on sulphurous fumigation	250
Hartshorn shavings, &c. adulteration of	143
Hastings, Dr., his book	854
Haughton's Elixir, composition of	835
Head-ache, nervous, peculiar species of	158
——— cured by extract of stramonium	486
——— different species of, by Surgeon Farmer	1042, 1110
Hedge Hyssop, oxymel of	428
Herald's powders	494
Hertz on preservation of teeth	300
Hickman's Diuretic Pills	808
Hoarseness, the effects of gas in	558
Holland, Dr., biographical sketch of	689
Hooping cough, remedy for	592
——— receipt for	592
——— the effects of gas in	442
——— tar vapour in	844
Hudson's botanical tooth powder	1031
Hunter's theory, remarks on, by D. H. Bacon, Esq.	565
Hunterian Lecture	816
Hutchinson's (Mr.) new treatment of tic doloureaux	501
——— (Dr.) treatise on infanticide	659
Hydrophobia, case of, 150, 318, 365, 913,	1061
——— remedy for	238
——— the scull cap in	394
——— by Mr. R. Pearson	420
——— treatment of	485
——— Dr. Privesah's remedy for	1061
——— new mode of treating it, by Dr. Muller	1145
Hypochondriacs, observations on, by Mr. H. Perry	1073
Hysteric fits, treatment of	385

I. & J.

Jackson's hepatic pills, composition of	270
James's powders	392
Jarvis, Surgeon, *v.* Sloper	775
Ice, simple mode of procuring it	840
——— on the preserving of it	1030
Jelly made from the raspings of ivory	494
Ignition of water	13
Ignorance, prosecution of a regular surgeon for	167
Iliac passions, successfully treated	299
Incontinence of urine, remedy for	590
——— treatment of, by Dr. John Maclean	139
——— cured by the tincture of buchu leaves	1080
Indigestion, by Dr. Hall	25
——— prevailing species of	440
——— cured by oxyde of bismuth	486
——— means of distinguishing the different species of	492
——— gleet, fluor albus, &c. remedy for	704
——— cured by galvanism	732
Infanticide, treatise on, by Dr. Hutchinson	659
Inflammation of the veins	331
——— erysipelatous, remedy for	93
——— purulent, remedy for	90
——— of the brain	352
——— rheumatic, of the eye	356
——— by Mr. Bellott	417
——— of the stomach	457
——— of the intestines	642, 769
——— of the mucous membrane of the bronchia	764
——— of the larynx, operation for	945
——— rationale of	975

Page

Inflammation, remarks on, by Dr. Gregory 969
Inflammatory excitement of secreting membranes, &c. 11
Insanity, rational treatment of..... 52
———— treatment of, remarks on the case of Sir Samuel Romily 83
Institution, medical, by Drs. Beaumont, Jordan, and others 1159
Iodine, in cases of wen and scrofula. 817
——— as a remedy for wen & scrofula 967
——— specific effects of, in scrofula 976
——— tincture of, observations on the beneficial effects of, in scrofula 1080
Johnson's (Dr. James) book 741
———————— treatise on the derangement of the liver, &c. 956, 1028
———————— remarks on his attack on the editors 966
Iron, phosphate of 160
—— sulphuret of 202
Irritation, morbid, of the bladder, prescription for 39
Itch, of the sulphuret of potass in cases of 944
Ivy, ground, effects of on nervous system 300

K.

King, late, case of the 433
Knox's (Dr.) remarks on the tape-worm being destroyed by spirit of turpentine 1005

L.

La Beaume, M. on deafness cured by galvanism 279
———————— remarks on the air-pump vapour bath 364
———————— Professor Adini's galvanic apparatus .. 247
———————— on medical electricity 467
———————— on the effects of galvanism 698
———————— on gutta, successfully treated by galvanism 1023
Labour, means suggested by Dr. Power for accelerating it 179
——— extraordinary case of..... 756
Latham, Dr., his letter to Lord Sidmouth on cow pox 235
———————— biographical memoirs of, literary and critical 17
Leeches, remarks on..... 967
Lettuce opium, by Dr. Duncan, sen.. 849
Lesbie, Dr., his remarks on tic douloureaux 10
Light of tar oil 868
Lightning, effects of 264
Lignic acid (purified)..... 238
Lindsay, Surgeon, case of 294
Liver, diseases of, by Dr. Miles 133
——— abscess of..... 966

Page

Liver cough 940
Living biography 48, 841, 905
Lock dispensary, remarks by Mr. Rayment..... 395
Lock jaw, cured 289, 541
———— Surgeon Sutliffe on 383
———— from a burn, by Mr. Wayte 1085
———— fatal 1157
Loss of power over the voluntary muscles 30
—— fatal, of blood, on extraction of a tooth 165
Lungs, means of ascertaining the state of 302
Lynche's (Mr.) exposure of practice on stricture..... 109
———— treatment of stricture 206
———— remarks on 268

M.

Machill's improved shower-bath 559
Mackenzie's (Dr.) remarks on mineral waters 266
Maclean, Dr. John, on incontinency of urine 139
———————— cures of tic douloureux 140
———————— diabetes ..... *ibid*
Macpharlane (surgeon) on Mr. Woodcock's letter 559
Mad doctors and mad-houses 524
Madden's essence 528
Madness, canine, remarks on 851
Magnesia 266
Magnetism, animal 523
Malt, extract of, remedy for 238
Malvern waters 966
Mania, blood-letting in, by Mr. Hamilton 418
Maniacal epilepsy, treatment of 63
Manure, new mode of making it.... 80
Maple tree, remarks on 332
Mapleson, Mr., on cupping 858
Matches, chemical, receipt for 840
Maton, Dr., biographical sketch of.. 305
Measles, the effects of cow-pox on .. 91
—— instructions for the treatment of 62
Meat, means of preserving it 292
—— poisoned 862
—— preserved by pyroligneous acid.. 869, 1000, 1080.
Medical excursions on the continent.. 53, 286, 320.
———————— to Cheltenham .. 484
———————— to Worcester, &c. 489
——— combination 267
——— science, promotion of, Dr. Cooke on the 379
——— electricity, by M. La Beaume 467
——— jurisprudence 623
——— arts at Brighton 747
——— practice, disposal of 484
——— consultation of the leading physicians, surgeons, theory-mongers, quacks of England, over the ourang-outang 806

Page

science, progress of..... 1065
:, practical institution of, in
n 1125
- on the causes which impede
ogress of 627, 1097, 1134
- state of 818
- state of it in Great Britain 545
——————— by surgeon
r 577
Chirurgical Society, institution
..... 1126
ation, painful, remedy for.. 931
, mortification and death oc-
ed by the use of 952
Dr., biographical sketch of 345
remedy for 203
(Dr.) remarks on diseases of
er 133
d matter, remarks on .. 291, 754
the two-fold nature of 434
waters, by Dr. Mackenzie .. 260
, Dr., on prussic acid 1117
neans of destroying them .. 776
(Dr.) jun., remarks on small-
..... 10
——— on the influence of re-
on the insane 114
, the method of obtaining it
..... 654
. Mackinnon 215
pplication of 703
Dr., his new mode of treating
phobia 1145
liniment, composition of .. 425

N.

, Mr., his evidence on the trial
ward Callaghan..... 684
, charge of, at St. Bartholo-
s hospital 39
the office of 920
bloom of 207
, chapped, Mr. Stedman's
dy for 79
n, termed the prepared essence
na 1127

O.

on the diseases of the poor.. 411
tion, intestinal, successful
ment of, by surgeon Williams 1071
a, Dr., his letter 1014
——— remarks on his opinion
the disease which occasioned
leon's death 1017
ions, surgical, remarks by sur-
Wardrop on 403
, new preparation of 920
and narcotine, English, re-
s on 1119
acid, fatal effects of 34
essence of ginger 548
l 323

Page

Oxygen, experiments with 1158
Oxymel of hedge hyssop 428

P.

Paint, white, revival of 749
Palsy, by Mr. Rose 32
—— Dr. Theodore Hart's remedy for 91
——— by surgeon Gaitskill 385
——— by Dr. Cooke 780
——— of the lower extremities cured
by electricity 810
——— of the bladder, treatment of .. 924
Paris, Dr., remarks on his Pharma-
cologia 1098, 1141
Parmly, Mr., his Essay on the disorder
and treatment of the teeth 1090
Parturition, extraordinary case of .. 1109
Patient, inhuman treatment of, by
ignorant pupils 457
——— treatment of, who had swal-
lowed arsenic 1138
Pearl, essence of..... 751
Pearson, Mr. R., his remarks on hy-
drophobia 420
——— Dr., remarks on his letter
on apoplexy..... 707
——— George, Dr., biographical
sketch of..... 561
Pegge, Sir Christopher, biographical
sketch of..... 625
Pemberton, Dr., his case of tic dolou-
reux 461
Pepys, Sir Lucas, Bart., biographical
sketch of 529
Perry, Mr. H., observations on hypo-
chondriacs 1073
Peruvian bark, effects of 331, 814
Pew, Dr., his remarks on cow-pox .. 164
Phagedænic ulcers, by surgeon Fayer-
man 201
Pharmacologia, remarks on Dr. Paris's 1098,
1141.
Pharmacopœia, American national .. 15
——————— London, remarks on 1099
Phillip, Dr., and Mr. Brodie, contro-
versy between them 480
——— his book on bilious com-
plaints..... 987
——— his experiments on rabbits 999
——— on the influence of the 8th
pair of nerves 1025
——— Hastings and Abel v. Mr.
Broughton 966
Phosphate of iron 160
Physicians, regular, remarks on the
qualification and practice of a cer-
tain class of them 722
——————— trading, advice to 861
——————— Guide, by Dr. Dods 1033
Piles, new mode of treating, &c..... 755
—— remedy for 811
Pills, hepatic, Jackson's..... 270
—— Hugh Smith's composition of 335
—— stomachic aperient, composition
of 397
—— antibilious, aperient..... 424

Page

Pills, Scott's, the injurious effects of and composition of 463
—— Anderson's 528
—— Hooper's ..... *ibid*
—— Dixon's antibilious ..... *ibid*
—— Speedman's ..... *ibid*
—— Stomachic 559
—— Antibilious, Mr. Cockle's 1160
Plague, contagious nature of 71, 283
Plantain root, remedy for fever 665
Plaster, discutient 428
——— anodyne, receipt for 422
Poisoned meat 863
Poisons, on the symptoms, treatment, and modes of detecting animal, mineral, and vegetable 666, 705
Poisoning from arsenic 160, 327
——— from laudanum 930
Pole, Mr., remarks on Col. Riddle's powders 92
Pooler, Mr., examination of 876
Poor, the employment of 431
Prescriptions 154
Price's treatise on electricity 739
Price, surgeon, his treatise on galvanism 1054
Printing, new method of 966
Privesah's, Dr., his remedy for hydrophobia 1061
Prussic acid, efficacy of in pulmonary consumption 38
——— properties of 127, 265
——— directions for making it 128, 559
——— by Dr. M'Leod 1117
Puerperal fever, remarks by Mr. Sutliffe 682
——— cured by bleeding . 745
Pulmonary consumption, effects of tar vapour in 78
——— effects of atmospheric pressure on 87, 159
——— ——— efficacy of prussic acid in 38
——— by Harke 528
Pumkin seeds 203
Purulent discharges from the ear .. 62
——— inflammation, remedy for . 90
——— discharges from the ears, treatment of, by surgeon Swan . . 1059
Pyrolignate of soda 1000
Pyroligneous acid, its properties in preserving animal food 160
——— the antiseptic properties of 644
——— meats preserved by 869, 1000, 1030.

Q.

Quackery, observations on .. 47, 171, 432, 1122.
——— Hatton Garden 458
——— irregular, remarks on . 645, 709
——— by Empirico Mastic ... 829
——— letter on, by an old surgeon 963
——— from E. M. ... 964

R.

Page

Rayer, Dr., on sniffling of infants .. 734
Rectum, relaxation of the 408
———treatment of the strictures of 615
Reid's (Dr.) remarks on natural classification of diseases 22
Religion, influence of, on the insane, by Dr. Monro 114
———by Dr. Tuthill 117
——— remarks on 119
Rhatany root, by Professor Hufeland 763
Rheumatism, remarks on 391, 813
———and gout, remedy for . 701
——— successful treatment of 737
———remedy for 769
———by Dr. Balfour 793, 799
———cured 909
——— by wine of colchicum seeds 938
———fatal case of, by Dr. Thompson 1062
———treatment of 1155
Rigley, Dr., of Norwich, biographical sketch of 1129
Ring-worm, scald-heads, &c. remedy for 701
Rose's (Mr.) remarks on palsy 22
Rupture, strangulated 796
———new operation for 811
Rymer's composition of cardiac and nervous tincture 175
———cardiac tincture 399
———tincture, remarks on by Dr. Paris 494
———*v.* the editors 718
——— trial of, for a libel on his cardiac tincture 873

S.

Saffron cake, and remarks on adulteration of 143
——— meadow, the properties of the 498
——— remarks by Dr. Williams 540
——— the seeds of, on the anti-rheumatic properties of them . 633
——— test of the goodness of 690
Salivation, expeditious means of exciting it 285
———case of melancholy cured by 694
Salts, Cheltenham, Mr. Thompson's remarks on 268
———true 558
———Epsom, remarks on 1025
Sarsaparilla, Mr. Battley's account of 91
——— virtues of 142
Sausages, German, poisonous property of 867
——— by Dr. Cournet . 1060
Scald-head and ringworm, &c. remedy for 701
——— ointment for the cure of..... 944
Scalds and burns, new treatment of : 557

	Page
Scarlett's (Mr.) remarks on quackery	171
——— his address in favour of the editor *v.* Rymer	877
——— remarks before the Lord Chief Justice	*ibid*
Sciatica cured by galvanism	254
Scirrhous enlargement of womb, cure of	142
——— tumours, remedy for	298
Scirrhus, successfully treated	363
Scott's Pills, the injurious effects and composition of	463
Scouring, remedy for	204
Scrofula, &c. notice of a dispensary for the cure of	91
——— cured by iodine	1108
Scrofulous abscess, Mr. Buth, on	384
Scudamore, Dr. his book on gout	523
Scull cap, in hydrophobia	394
Scurvy grass, golden spirit of	207
Seidlitz Powders, remarks on	655, 1027
Shipman, Mr. his observations on cow pox	1088
Sheppard, Mr., his experiments on two dogs	484
Sight, weakness of, by Surgeon Stephenson	227
Small Pox, by Dr. Bent	9
——— Dr. Monro, jun.	11
——— secondary, with remarks by Messrs. Wright and Fosbrook	197
——— subsequent to cow pox, by Surgeon Gaitskill	260
——— after vaccination	746
——— two cases of, after vaccination	952
——— failure of vaccination as a preventive of	999
Smoke, Mr. M. A. Taylor's method of burning it	654
Smut in wheat, means of preventing	461
Smyth, Dr. Carmichael, biographical sketch of	401
Sniffling of infants, by Dr. Rayer	413
Soda water, remarks on	141
—— pyrolignate of	1000
Spurzheim and Gall, Drs. on their system of craniology	110
Stanger, Dr., biographical Sketch of	498
Stedman, Mr. remedy for chapped nipples	79
Steele, Surgeon, examination of	876
Stephenson, Surgeon, on weakness of sight	227
Stevens, Dr., on suspended animation	264
Stomach, incision into by Dr. Cayroyhe	386
——— acute pain in, remedy for	760
Stone, extraction from the male bladder	11
——— in the bladder	303
——— remarks on ditto	313
——— in the bladder, remedy for	570
——— a case of	419, 783
Stramonium, by Mr. Ward	362
Stricture, treatment of by Mr. Lynch	206
——— remarks on	239, 268
——— of the rectum, treatment of	615
Stricture of the rectum and colon	662
——— gleet, &c. new work on	398
St. Vitus's dance, by Dr. Watts	263
Sudatory, an account of	850
Sulphate of Iron	202
Surgeons, advice to	936
Sutliffe, Surgeon, on locked jaw	382
——— Mr., remarks on puerperal fever	682
——— remarks on acetic acid	*ibid*
Sydenham, Dr., composition of his pills	837
Syder, Mr. Mingay, his questions and answers, for medical students	1081
Symmonds, Dr., composition of his pills	838
Swan, Surgeon, his treatment of the purulent discharges from the ear	1059
Sweindeur, on cancerous ulceration	1022

T.

Tape-worm	11
——— remedy for	307
——— new remedy for	666
——— destroyed by spirit of turpentine, by Dr. Knox	1005
——— remedy for	1053
Tar vapour, in pulmonary consumption	78
Tea, poisonous property of	175, 203, 303
—— radical	428, 560
—— cheap substitute for	462
Teeth, preservation of, by Professor Hertz	300
Terry's (Mr.) remarks on typhus	420
Theories, new, remarks on	491
——— fatal effects of	1116
Theory by Parson Barclay	740
——— of life continued	595
Thomson's (Mr.) Cheltenham salts	268
——— (Dr.) fatal case of rheumatism	1062
Tic douloureaux, by Dr. Lesbie	10
——— treatment of	38
——— cures of by Dr. John Maclean	140
——— Dr. Pemberton's case of	461
——— Mr. Hutchinson's new treatment of	501
——— successful treatment of	614
——— an obstinate case of	911
——— by Surgeon Villers	998
——— cured by carbonate of iron	736, 937, 1039
——— Peruvian bark	1041
Tierney's practice in the indisposition of his Majesty	466
——— biographical sketch of	465
Tincture, composition of Rymer's cardiac and nervous	175
——— gout	425
——— cardiac, Rymer's	399, 463
——— of bark, White's	425

Page

Tincture of lupulin, a remedy for irritative indigestion 847
——— of iodine, receipt for making it 1155
Tinder's pile specific 1092
Tooth, excessive discharge of blood from extraction 90
Toothache, remedy for 397
——— treatment of 927
Tower's tonic pills 870
Tree's instructions for grafting them 462
——— fruit 749
Tubercles, remarks on, by Dr. Baron 500
Tumefaction of the gland of the breast, remedy for 323
Tumours, Sanguineous, a case of.... 1146
——— remarks on.. 1157
Tuthill, Dr. on influence of religion on the insane 117
——— memoirs of 49
Tweed's Mr. Treatise on regimen and diet 1092
Twins, queries respecting a case of, in Worcester 865
——— delivery of 999
Typhoid fever, treatment of 64
Typhus fever, by Dr. Bateman 1
——— remedy for 79
——— Mr. Whitmore's case of 157
——— remarks by Mr. Collingwood 386
——— by Mr. Terry 420
——— by Surgeon Willet 425
Typhus fever, on the effects of bleeding in 682
——— remarks on the treatment of 907

U.

Ulceration, cancerous, by Sweindeur 1022
Unwin's (Dr.) remarks on the hepatic doctrines of diseases 212
Uteri, the lower scirrhous enlargement of 1112
Uterine hæmorrhage, treatment of.. 89
Urine, suppression of, by Mr. Wilkinson 809
Uwin's (Dr.) remarks on gout and rheumatism, cured by the wine of the Colchicum seeds 1115

V.

Varioloid diseases 45
Vaughan (Dr.) remarks on cholera morbus 253
Veins, inflammation of 331
Veitch's (Dr.) treatment of gutta serena 924
Venison, haunches of, extraordinary effects of 842

Page

Vegetable diet, remarks on 1129
Velno's vegetable syrup 808
Vertebra of the neck, dislocation of 910
Villier's Surgeon, remarks on tic douloureux 998

W.

Walker (surgeon) on the state of medicine 577
——— on aneurism 851
Wansborough (surgeon) on concussion of the brain 759
Ward's (Dr.) remarks on stramonium 362
Warren, late Dr., biographical sketch of 621
——— Pelham, Dr., biographical sketch of ..... *ibid*
Water doctors 333
Watery head 234
——— cured 317
——— by an operation 59
——— distinguishing symptoms of 616
——— new mode of treatment of, by Sir Gilbert Blane 1113
——— puncture of 928
Watts (Dr.) on St. Vitus's dance .. 263
Wayte, Mr., on lock-jaw from a burn 1084
Weakness of sight, by surgeon Stevenson 227
Wen, new mode of operating for .. 360
——— remedy for 771
——— cured by ligature 1049
Wesener, Dr., his receipts for ague.. 682
Whipple on the soul 397
Whitmore's (Mr.) remarks on typhus 157
Whyte's tincture of bark 425
Williams (Dr.) on the meadow saffron 540
——— on the colchicum seeds 785
——— (surgeon) on intestinal obstruction 1071
Wilkinson, Mr., on the suppression of urine 809
Wilson's (D. Esq.) remarks on galvanism and air-pump vapour bath 192
——— Mr., on mind and matter . 754
Wines 46
Wordrop, surgeon, on surgical operations 403
Woodcock, Mr., his vindication of Mrs. Courtenay 528
——— Mr. Macpharlane on his letter 559
Worm, tape, remarks on 11
——— remarks on the original of .. 290
——— tape, remedy for 370, 1053
——— new remedy for..... 666
——— by Dr. Bremer 790
——— tape, destroyed by spirit of turpentine, by Dr. Knox 1005
Wounds, lacerated, on the treatment of 588
Wright and Fosbrook, remarks on secondary small-pox 197
——— Mr., his remedy on deafness 78
——— reply to his letter on deafness 187, 232

	Page
Wright, Mr. his letter to the committee of the deaf and dumb asylum	252
——— on diseases of the ear ..	441
——— his address to those afflicted with deafness	1144
Y.	
Yeates, Dr., remarks on dropsy of the head	122
Yeast, method of preserving it.....	298
Yellow fever, treatment and prevention of 349,	1155
Youth, employment of in manufactories	73
——— education of 749, 822,	826
Z.	
Zest of Dr. Kitchiuson	776

Contents of the Addition to the Appendix C *to the 29th Number.*

Arnott, Mr., his book.....	lxii
Bell and Shaw, Messrs. their book on stricture in the urethra	lv
Bingham, Mr., remarks on	lx
——— his supposed new mode of treating stricture	lxii
Bladder, morbid irritability of, remedy for	lxx
Bougie, new, description of	lxxi
——— instructions for using it	lxxi
——— metallic syringe, description of	lxxii
Buchu leaves	lxxvii
Cubebs	lxxviii
Enlargement of the prostate gland, remedy for	lxxi
Gleet, remedy for	lxx
Hypochondriasis of youth, &c. &c. .	lxxvii
Impotency, causes, treatment, &c. of	lxxiii
Stricture in the urethra	lv
——— treatment of	lxvi, lxix
——— organic	lxvii
Urethra, male, description of	lxiv
Vesicles, seminal	lxv
——— affections of them often taken for stricture	lxvi

R. Clay, Printer, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate.

N°. 61, *To January 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,

OR,

Popular Medical, Dietetic,

AND

PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

Of London,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," &c. &c. &c.

And by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Biographical Sketch of Professor Carlisle 753
Mind and Matter, by Mr. Wilson 754
New Mode of Treating Piles, &c. 759
Extraordinary Case of Parturition 756
Case of Concussion of the Brain, by Surgeon Wansborough 759
Report of the Diseases of Berlin 762
On the Rhatany Root, by Professor Hoteland 763
Inflammation of the Mucous Membrane of the Bronchia 764
Remedy for Rheumatism 769
Ditto for Acute Pain in the Stomach, Vomiting ..... *Ibid.*
Ditto for Wen 771
Remarks on Education ..... *Ibid.*
On Empirical Books and Theories 773
The Case of Surgeon Jarvis v. Lawyer Sloper 775
Means of Destroying Moles, &c. 776
On the Zest of Dr. Kitchener ..... *Ibid*

Title Page, Preface, and Contents to Vol. V.

LONDON.—Published by Sherwood & Co. Paternoster Row; Simpkin & Marshall, Stationers' Court; and sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

Cox & Co. Printers & Typefounders, Bishopsgate.

"A. B." of Taunton, is advised to take three of the following pills, twice a day, with a glass of the decoction of marshmallow root:

Take of—Foreign extract of Rhatany Root, one drachm;
Carbonate of Iron, one scruple;
Rhubarb Powder, two scruples;
Oil of Cloves, ten drops;
Simple Syrup, a sufficient quantity to form a mass.

To be divided into thirty pills. The Editors also advise him to adopt the sassafras cocoa, for tea and supper. They did not receive his letter till the 20th instant. The mode of making oxygen gas, they will give in their next Number.

The request of a "Constant Reader," at Falmouth, was received in time to comply with it in the present Number. The Editors will send him the information by post, addressed, A. B. Post Office, Falmouth, in a day or two.

To a "Regular Subscriber," at Lynn, the Editors recommend an issue in the arm, and when it discharges freely, to bathe once or twice a day, the following lotion, into the part affected, mixed with an equal quantity of warm water:

TO CORRESPONDENTS—*continued.*

"A Subscriber," at Gloucester, and "C. W. T." of Fitzroy-street, are referred to the article on Rheumatism, in the present Number. The alcaline wine of the colchicum seeds will, no doubt, prove very beneficial to both.

The complaints noticed by "W. Y." are strong symptoms of a stone in the bladder; they advise him therefore to have his bladder examined by an experienced surgeon. In case they should not be the effects of a stone, the Editors advise him to take two of the following pills, twice a day, with a wine-glass-full of the decoction of the bear's whortleberry:

Take of—Extract of Henbane, half a drachm;
Carbonate of Iron, half a drachm;
Extract of Rhatany Root, (foreign) one drachm;
Rhubarb Powder, one scruple;
Simple Syrup, sufficient to form a mass.

To be divided into thirty-six pills.

"X. X. X." of York, is recommended to take the ligneous oxymel of colchicum, made after the separation of the gluten, which he will find to agree with his stomach and bowels.

"A Subscriber," will find the following pills an excellent substitute for Spilbury's drops:

Take of—Blue Pill, one drachm;
Golden Sulphur of Antimony, half a drachm.

To be well mixed together, and divided into twenty-four pills; two to be taken once or twice a day.

To "A Yorkshire Subscriber," the Editors recommend the following mixture:

Take of—Compound Tincture of Rhatany Root, one ounce;
Alcaline Wine of the Colchicum Seeds, 3 drachms;
Camphorated Mixture, six ounces.—Mix.

Three table-spoonful to be taken twice a day. He should keep

by an over-dose of the fuming, which was made with a
powerful spirit of ammonia. The gum they consider a
safe aromatic medicine.

"C. O." "L. V." and "A. S." will find an account of
diseases in the Appendix, and "A. M. P." and "W." in
Supplement. These works contain instructions for the treatm
of diseases which the Editors cannot notice in their regu
numbers. The long-promised Appendix on Stricture,
shortly be published.

The following favours have been received :—

A receipt for an aperient stomachic cordial, for gouty subje
from a Suffolk Servant.

An external remedy for rheumatism ; from J. Bailey, Fa

Resurgam ;—Veronica;—a remedy for nausea after
pregnancy;—Remarks on Surgeon Walker's Letters ;—Ana
of Hickman's Pills for Gravel ; of Cockle's Antibilious Pill
The Jubilee Remedy for Hooping-cough ;—Hudson's Tu
Powders ;—and Hammett's Pearl Dentifrice, &c. &c., are

Medical Gases.

Mr. PAYNE,

Pneumatic Chemist, No. 136, *New Bond Street*, between 135 and 137, (there being two numbers 136,)

Begs leave to state, that INFLAMMATIONS of the LUNGS, CONSUMPTIONS, RECENT COLDS, TOUGH PHLEGM, ASTHMAS, SPITTING of BLOOD, NIGHT PERSPIRATIONS, ST. ANTHONY'S FIRE, are most effectually treated by the GASES.

All NERVOUS COMPLAINTS,

Particularly St. VITUS'S DANCE, very speedily yield to the VITAL AIR, which is perfectly tasteless, and can be sent to the most distant parts, in the highest perfection, at 6*s.* per dozen Bottles, exclusive of the Bottles containing it, Packages and Porterage.

HEAD-ACHES and GIDDINESSES immediately removed, and permanently cured. The most distressing Paroxysms of GOUT most speedily relieved by external application of GAS.—*Five Guineas* each application for the GOUT.

ALL THE MEDICAL GASES

May be obtained from Mr. Payne, with GASOMETERS, on improved principles, for their application, accurately gauged, that Patients may inhale the Gases at their own houses, agreeable to the Prescriptions of their Medical Attendants. The number of Recent Cures which have been performed by the Airs, fully evince their great value in Medicine.

Attendance daily, at the Pneumatic Institution, No. 136, New Bond Street, where the Airs are constantly administered with the most benign effects, and where, in corroboration of these facts, a number of the most remarkable Cures may be seen.

Mr Payne has no Partnership, as misrepresented, nor has he any other Establishment, than at No. 136, New Bond Street.

Medical Gentlemen may rely on the purity of the Gases they order.

*** *COUNTRY ORDERS (Post Paid) with Town References, meet every Attention.*

No. 3, WARWICK PLACE, BEDFORD ROW, LONDON.

The real Manufacturers of the following Articles, which they warrant to be of the best Quality, at the low Prices annexed; viz.

	£.	s.	d.
Elastic Gum Boogies, each	0	2	0
Ditto Catheters	0	5	0
Ditto Canulas	0	4	0
Ditto Rectum Boogies	0	5	0
Ditto Ditto	0	5	0
Ditto Œsophagus Ditto	0	7	0
Ditto Ditto Tubes	0	9	0
Ditto Seton Tapes	0	1	3
Ditto Pessaries (various)	0	3	0
Ditto Ditto	0	2	0
Ditto Male Syringe Bottles	0	2	6
Ditto Female Do. 2s. 6d. to	0	7	0
Ditto Hydrocele Injecting Bottles	0	7	6
Ditto Ear Syringes	0	3	6
Ditto Clyster Bottles, 4 oz.	0	4	6
Ditto Ditto, 6 oz.	0	5	6
Ditto Ditto, 8 oz.	0	6	6
Ditto Ditto, 12 oz.	0	7	6
Ditto Ditto, 16 oz. with Brass Stop Cock, Self-using Tube, and 2 Pipes	0	15	0
The above complete, in Mahogany Case	1	5	0
Sir E. Home's improved curved flexible Bougie	0	2	6

	£.	s.	d.
Black Wax Bougies, per doz.	0	2	6
Coloured Ditto	0	3	0
White Ditto	0	3	6
Caustic Ditto	0	5	0
Caligni Ditto	0	13	0
Ivory Nipple Shields, each	0	2	0
Box Wood Ditto, ditto	0	1	3
Pewter & Glass Do. ditto	0	1	6
Prepared Twats, the pair	0	2	6
Cupping Pump, with 6 Valved Glasses, and Scarificator, in Mahogany Case, complete	4	5	0
A Set of 6 Glasses, Spirit Lamp, and Scarificator, in Mahogany Case	3	10	0
Pint Pewter Syringe, with Self-using Pipe	0	15	0
Ditto in Mahogany Case	1	5	0
Half Pint Syringe, with Self Pipe	0	15	0
Ditto in Mahogany Case	1	5	0
Brass, Pewter, and Bone Syringes, of all sorts and sizes.			
Suspending Belts & Trusses, of all sorts.			

Also Instruments and Cases of every description, and all Articles required for Surgical or Medical purposes.

Abdominal Bandages.

BAKER and SON

Respectfully beg leave to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry, and Members of the Medical Profession, that their Male and Female ABDOMINAL BANDAGES are only to be obtained at their Warehouse, No. 24, Bedford-street, Covent Garden.

They have the pleasure to say, that the invention, which has lately been much improved, according to the kind suggestion of several Medical Gentlemen, is now recommended by the most eminent Members of the Faculty, both in England and France; and those Ladies and Gentlemen who have adopted them, speak in the highest terms of commendation of the comforts they afford, and the essential advantages they have received from them in cases of **weakness of the Stomach, Relaxation of the Bowels and of the Back.**

292, *Strand,*

RELIEF WITH EASE & SECURITY TO THE AFFLICTED *with* HERNIA.

SALMON, ODY, and Co. after many years' successful practice, and being honoured with the recommendation of the most eminent of the Faculty in Town and Country, think it just to the Public and themselves thus to announce their long established Improvement in the construction of INSTRUMENTS for the RELIEF of HERNIA, and to caution the Public against the impositions of the pretended Rupture-curing Quacks, who have from time to time deceived the Public, recommending such as may not be experienced to take the opinion of respectable professional men, before being led to be the dupes of such pretenders.

Their Instruments are light, elegant, and admit of superior cleanliness, are adapted for right or left side, increase and decrease of force and size, requiring no under strap or other galling bandage.

N. B. Persons residing in the country, sending the circumference of the body across the hips, may depend upon being accurately fitted.

Sold at the Medical Hall, 34, Sackville-street, Dublin, and one of their Druggists in every principal Town in England.

The Second Edition of the following interesting Books, published by WARR, New Bond Street, are sold by HIGHLEY and SON, Fleet Street, SEPTIMUS, Cornhill, CALLOW, Princes Street and may be had of all Booksellers.

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE EFFICACY OF

GALVANISM,

AND THE

AIR-PUMP VAPOUR BATH,

In the Cure of Stomach, Liver, and Bowel Complaints, Gout, Mercurial Rheumatism, Palsy, Diseased Joints, Cutaneous Eruptions, &c. with numerous Cases.

By M. LA BEAUME,

Medical Surgeon-Electrician, Consulting Doctor to the London Electrical Dispensary (instituted in 1783) F. L. S. &c.—Price 6s. in extra Boards.

ALSO, BY THE SAME AUTHOR,

Dedicated, by Permission, to the Prince of Orange, with Appropriate Engravings,

The History, Philosophy, and Medical Efficacy of

Electricity,

In the Cure of Nervous and Chronic Diseases, and various local Maladies, as Blindness, Deafness, &c. with many new and remarkable Cases.—Price 10s. 6d. in extra Boards.

These Works, as well as the Author's practice, have been very favourably noticed in the Medical and Physical Journals, the Medical Repository, the Gazette of Health, the Medical Intelligencer, &c.; as Mr. La Beaume has devoted his attention to the science of *Electricity* and Galvanism for a period of about twenty years, and having an extensive and successful practice in this branch of the healing art, he has very ably treated on this important subject. His remarks on Deafness claim particular attention, as they are designed to guard the unwary against a wrong medical treatment, and to point out a rational and efficient mode of cure. Some of these remarks, with cases illustrating their correctness, are recorded in the Gazette of Health, No. 49. For a review of the above Works, see Nos. 38, 50, and 54.

The Author may be consulted at his house, 31, Southampton Row, Russell Square, daily (Sundays excepted) between the hours of 12 and 5, or by letters post paid.

The Public is also informed that Electricity is administered to the poor under the direction of two eminent physicians and surgeons, by a skilful operator of seven years experience, at the London Electrical Dispensary (instituted in 1783) No. 75, Rundell Row, under the patronage of Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg, &c. President, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Holland, Lord Glenlyon, Sir Allan Chambre, Sir James Mackintosh, Sir Robert Gardener, Colonel Addenbrooke, &c. The Reports of the Institution may be had (gratis) at 31, Southampton Row, Russell Square, between the hours of one and three.

Patients admitted at the Institution from Michaelmas 1781, to 5th of April 1820,—8123.

Whereof have been cured	4,087
Relieved	3,573
Discharged	1,289
Now under care	84
	8,973

No. 62, *To February 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,

AND

Popular Medical, Dietetic,

AND

PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL,

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

Of London,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DISPENSATORY OF POPULAR MEDICINES," "MEDICAL GUIDE," &C. &C. &C.

And by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
A Biographical Sketch of Dr. Buxton	777
On Paley, by Dr. Cooke	780
Statistical Inquiry into the frequency of Stone in the Bladder	783
The London Pharmacopœia	*ibid.*
Of the beneficial Effects of the Colchicum Seeds in Syphilitic Rheumatism	785
Ditto of the Ammoniated Tincture of ditto in painful Menstruation	787
Ditto ditto in Asthma	788
Case of Inflammation of the Intestines, cured by Cold Water, &c.	789
Remedies recommended by Dr. Bremser for Worms	790
Ditto for long Round-worm	791
Ditto for the Ascarides	*ibid.*
Ditto for Tape Worm	792
Cases of Rheumatism cured by Percussion	793
Treatment of Strangulated Rupture	796
Radical Cure of Rupture proposed	797
Cure for Hare Lip	*ibid.*
Receipt for Gout Cordial	798
Ditto for Rheumatism	799
Of the Buchu Leaves	*ibid.*
Of the New Names of Drugs	800

[Turn over.

LONDON:—Published by Sherwood & Co. Paternoster Row; Simpkin & Marshall, Stationers' Court; and sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

Clay & Co. Printers, 8, Bucklersbury, London.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editors advise "J. H. T." to take three table-spoonfuls of the following mixture twice a-day; *viz.* about two hours before, and three hours after, dinner:

Take of Infusion of Roses, seven ounces;
Compound Tincture of Rhatany Root, one ounce;
Sulphate of Magnesia, three drachms.—Mix.

He may take his favourite aperient pills once a week. He should avoid green vegetables, acids, pickles, pastry, fish, meats, and wine. The composition of herbs, recommended in a late number, is preferable to coffee or tea. His dinner should consist chiefly of animal food. He may take mutton or veal broth or mutton, free from fat, with a small proportion of mashed potatoes, with pepper and salt. Biscuit is preferable to bread, and weak brandy and water, without sugar, to malt liquor. He should avoid full meals, and the meat, &c. he takes, should be well masticated. For supper, he may take broth, gruel, or tea. Intermediate meals, as lunch and tea, are unnecessary, and a luxurient subject improper. He should keep his feet warm, by wearing flannel socks. If he be of a corpulent habit, they advise him to make use of the abdominal bandage of Messrs. Tuson and Son. If he be subject to head-ache, or giddiness, the application of cold water, every morning, to the head, will prove beneficial. The Editors will give an article on Flotoleine in an early number.

"C. S." of Shrewsbury, is referred to the Appendix, page 72, for the information and advice in queries.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—*continued*

"Anna P." of Tottenham, may substitute the ammoniated tincture of the colchicum seeds, for the oxymel, which will not disturb the bowels.

With the request of an "Old Clergyman," the Editors will comply in an early number, probably their next.

To Mr. "W. D." of Bromly, the Editors recommend the following mixture.

Take of Balsam of Copaiva, or Balsam of Spruce, three drachms;
Fresh Mucilage of Gum Arabic, three ounces.

Mix well together in a mortar, and add by degrees a pint and a half of the Decoction of Iceland Moss; and Tincture of Henbane, one ounce.—A wine-glassful to be taken three times a day. In case of the bowels being constipated, he may take twenty grains of Rhubarb Powder, and two of Calomel, occasionally. He should avoid spices, and spirituous or vinous liquors, and live principally on animal and vegetable jellies, and the interior part of roasted meat, and wear flannel next the skin—the warm bath is also proper. We shall be glad to be favoured with the result of this treatment.

The other Correspondents requiring advice, will hear from the Editors by post, in a day or two.

The Editors hope no Subscriber will hesitate in re-applying to them, in case they should neglect to answer their queries.

☞ In order to dispose of the communications which have accumulated within the last three months, the Editors have determined on publishing, on the 15th of February, "an Addition to the present Number," which will not exceed the price of one shilling. It will be forwarded to Subscribers in the country, with the next number. In it they will give the information they have long promised to many of their Subscribers.

The Editors very willingly accede to the proposition made by a Surgeon in Bristol, viz.:—to supply New Subscribers with the Back Numbers, at 9*d* each; but this they cannot do, through their Agents, the Booksellers, on account of the allowance which it is customary to make to the trade. New Subscribers can therefore be supplied with the Back Numbers, at the above price, only at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly.

Dominus P——, Quintus, Jane ——, on Education;—An Account of Mr. M. La Besume's Sudatory;—Chronicus;—Practical Examination of Dr. Johnson's Mode of Treating Diseases;—Meeting of the Faculty;—Medical Economics;—Queries respecting Surgeon Grey;—Receipt for the Oxymeliate of Potass Muriate;—Sydenham's Pills of Health;—Sibly's Tinctures, &c. &c., are arranged for the "Addition to the present Number."

TRUSSES,

G. GRACIE,

N° 63, *To March 1st*, 1821,

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY

Gazette of Health,

AND

Popular Medical, Dietetic,

AND

PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

[illegible] OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," &c. &c.

[illegible] *Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.*

CONTENTS.

Page

Experimental Cases, by Mr. Wilkinson 809

Case of Cure in the Lower Extremities, cured by Electricity 810

On the new Operation for Stricture 811

Baths for Poor 812

The Cholera 813

The Dental Course of a Woman, by Hippocrates, &c. 814

Mind and Brain 815

Softness of the Brain, by Dr. Hooper 816

Operation of Hunt's Powder for Weakness of Sight 818

[illegible] 819

[illegible] 820

[illegible] 821

[illegible] 822

[illegible] 823

[illegible] 824

[illegible] 825

[illegible] 826

[illegible] 827

[illegible] 828

[illegible] 829

[illegible] 830

[illegible] 831

[illegible] 832

[illegible] 833

[illegible] 834

[illegible] 835

[illegible] 836

[illegible] 837

[illegible] 838

[illegible] 839

[illegible] 840

[illegible] 841

[illegible] 842

[illegible] 843

[illegible] 844

[illegible] 845

[illegible] 846

[illegible] 847

[illegible] 848

[illegible] 849

[illegible] 850

[illegible] 851

[illegible] 852

[illegible] 853

[illegible] 854

[illegible] 855

[illegible] 856

[illegible] 857

[illegible] 858

[illegible] 859

[illegible] 860

[illegible] 861

[illegible] 862

[illegible] 863

[illegible] 864

[illegible] 865

[illegible] 866

[illegible] 867

[illegible] 868

[illegible] 869

[illegible] 870

[illegible] 871

[illegible] 872

[illegible] 873

[illegible] 874

[illegible] 875

[illegible] 876

[illegible] 877

[illegible] 878

[illegible] 879

[illegible] 880

[illegible] 881

[illegible] 882

[illegible] 883

[illegible] 884

[illegible] 885

[illegible] 886

[illegible] 887

[illegible] 888

[illegible] 889

[illegible] 890

[illegible] 891

[illegible] 892

[illegible] 893

[illegible] 894

[illegible] 895

[illegible] 896

[illegible] 897

[illegible] 898

[illegible] 899

[illegible] 900

[illegible] 901

[illegible] 902

[illegible] 903

[illegible] 904

[illegible] 905

[illegible] 906

[illegible] 907

[illegible] 908

[illegible] 909

[illegible] 910

[illegible] 911

[illegible] 912

[illegible] 913

[illegible] 914

[illegible] 915

[illegible] 916

[illegible] 917

[illegible] 918

[illegible] 919

[illegible] 920

[illegible] 921

[illegible] 922

[illegible] 923

[illegible] 924

[illegible] 925

[illegible] 926

[illegible] 927

[illegible] 928

[illegible] 929

[illegible] 930

[illegible] 931

[illegible] 932

[illegible] 933

[illegible] 934

[illegible] 935

[illegible] 936

[illegible] 937

[illegible] 938

[illegible] 939

[illegible] 940

[illegible] 941

[illegible] 942

[illegible] 943

[illegible] 944

[illegible] 945

[illegible] 946

[illegible] 947

[illegible] 948

[illegible] 949

[illegible] 950

[illegible] 951

[illegible] 952

[illegible] 953

[illegible] 954

[illegible] 955

[illegible] 956

[illegible] 957

[illegible] 958

[illegible] 959

[illegible] 960

[illegible] 961

[illegible] 962

[illegible] 963

[illegible] 964

[illegible] 965

[illegible] 966

[illegible] 967

[illegible] 968

[illegible] 969

[illegible] 970

[illegible] 971

[illegible] 972

[illegible] 973

[illegible] 974

[illegible] 975

[illegible] 976

[illegible] 977

[illegible] 978

[illegible] 979

[illegible] 980

[illegible] 981

[illegible] 982

[illegible] 983

[illegible] 984

[illegible] 985

[illegible] 986

[illegible] 987

[illegible] 988

[illegible] 989

[illegible] 990

[illegible] 991

[illegible] 992

[illegible] 993

[illegible] 994

[illegible] 995

[illegible] 996

[illegible] 997

[illegible] 998

[illegible] 999

[illegible] 1000

LONDON:

[illegible] BOYS, PRINTERS & PUBLISHERS,

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE EDITOR advises "An old Subscriber" to [illegible] the Alcoline Wine of the Canadian Backwoods, [illegible] Cayenne Lozenges or Compliments Vegetable Liniment, and to keep it [illegible] the application of flannel. To prevent a recurrence of [illegible] remedy is the Plaster of Gum Ammoniac, Hemlock and Mercury [illegible] removal either by a Lotion or a corn rasp.

To "Fred. H——r" they recommend the following mixture:

Take of Compound Tincture of Rhubarb Root, [illegible]
Dilute Sulphuric Acid, 1 drachm.
Wine of the Caribbean Seeds, 4 drachms.
Camphorated Julep, 6 ounces.—Mix.

Three table spoonfuls to be taken twice a day. He should also [illegible] the skin, keep the bowels in a regular state by taking occasionally [illegible] two spoonfuls of Epsom Salt, and live generally, avoiding [illegible] an excess of wine. The Editor advised his friend to [illegible] injured it, but in consequence of some mistake on [illegible] superscription, the letter was returned to them.

"M. A. Z." should gently [illegible] two [illegible] twice a day.

Take of Triturated Zinc, 10 grains.
Pure Water, half a pint.—Mix.

He should live abstemiously, and [illegible] a kind that would terminate without medicine. [illegible] necessary, unless the bowels should be confined in which case [illegible] occasionally two of these drachms of Epsom or Cheltenham Salts, [illegible] a quarter of a pint of water.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—*continued*.

The Editors recommend "G. W. L." to give his daughter two tea-spoonfuls of the Extract of the Cocoa-nut Seeds, three times a day, in a glass of lemon-ade.

"Mr. S—s," of Monmouth, "W. W." of Bristol, "A. B." of Bath, and "R. S." of Shrewsbury, will find the information they require in the *Appendix* to this work. The Editors advise "A. B." to discontinue the use of the cold baths, till the local complaint is properly cured.

To "A. P." the Editors recommend the Infusion of the Bitter Leaves, noticed in the last number.

The complaints of "Louisa," of Manchester, seem to arise from an over-sensitive state of the nervous system. They advise her to take one teaspoonful of the following drops twice a day, in a glass of Water, or Compound Julep:—

Tinct. of the Alkaline Tincture of Iron, 4 drachms.
Compound Tincture of Bitter Root, or of Bark, 1½ ounce.
Compound Spirit of Ammonia, 4 drachms.—Mix.

He may also, for the course of a few days, take four grains of the Blue Pill every night.

The Editors beg to assure "Anxiously" that they have not received the letter to which he alludes.

To the Author of "Notices of Physicians, &c." the Editors return their thanks for a promise of communications on interesting subjects.

The advice of "Constant Reader" and "G. W. L." the Editors will attend to in their next number, in which they intend to comply with the request of the former relative to the "Brunswick Coin Platter."

"Clericus," for ordering his set into volumes, will find that we have already entered Sixty's Elder Tractate, and Williams's Rye Water.

☞ The Editors, through a variety of urgent engagements, have not been able to finish the promised "additions to their last Number." They are now in hopes of being able so far to accommodate their readers, as to render any additional Number unnecessary.

*** Communications to be addressed to the Editors, Bolton Row.

TO PARENTS.

Dr. H. is in his 17th year, and wishes for a Pupil. He will be treated as one of his own family, and will have every facility for improvement and practice in every branch of the medical profession. For Terms apply at No. 170, Piccadilly.

PATENT BRACES.

T. TAFFE begs leave to acquaint the Nobility, Gentry, and Members of the Medical Profession, that his IMPROVED BRACES, which have met with the recommendations of the Faculty of the Colleges of Health, and the first Physicians and Surgeons of the Metropolis, for supporting the small distended scrotum producing rest, pressing inward the intestines, by means of a flexible and elastic Spring, in the different positions and motions of the Body), are only to be had at the Warehouse, No. 288, Oxford-street.

☞ The Editors obtain for the Readers of this Work, directed by Mr. Taffe to every person to wear, and render the attendant purpose better than for they have ordered to their Newspaper vendors.

MEDICAL GASES

N° 64, *To April 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,
OR,
Popular Medical, Dietetic,
PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE.

OF LONDON,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," &c. &c. &c.

Aided by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

Page

Of Living Biography 641
The extraordinary Effects of Hydrochlorate of Ammonia 642
Of the Effects of Vapour Tar in Cases of Hooping Cough, &c. 643
Of the Hop 645
The Tincture of Lupulin, a Remedy for irritative Indigestion 648
Of the Lettsom Opium, by Dr. Duncan, junior 649
On Anasarca, by Surgeon Walker 654
On Canine Madness 655
On Dr. Hastings's Book 656
On Cupping, with Instructions for Operating, by Mr. Mapleson 658
Advice to Trading Physicians 663
Of the Barbu Leaves 664
Queries respecting a Case of Twins 665

[Turn over.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; SIMPKIN & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT;

&c. &c. sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

The Vegetable Pills Ointment ..... —
Towers's Turtle Pills 472
Answers to Invalids 473

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE favours of Mr. Tanner and Mr. Lupton have been received.

The Editors have already made some observations on the lasting effects of the long continued use of Arsenic on the Stomach, to which they refer G. G.

The Editors return "Vindicator" their thanks for his complimentary remarks. The Receipts, &c. to which he alludes, were given in consequence of several applications from respectable Subscribers.

The Editors do not agree with T. B., that Paley has lately increased in London. They have already noticed the cases, &c. of Paley, in their notice of Dr. Cooke's late publication on Parish Diseases.

To Mr. James—Dr. T— of Liverpool—Dr. Jacques of Paris—J. P. of Boulogne—Dr. Forbes of New York, the Editors return their thanks.

*** Advice to Patients will, in future, be given in the last page of each Number.

☞ The Editors beg leave to acquaint their Subscribers, that they will publish, on the 14th of April, an Addition to their present Number, containing a full Account of the late Trial of Squire Rymer, versus the Editors, for a libel on his professional Character, and Occular Tinctures, with remarks on the *eloquent* and *liberal* Speech of his Counsel, Mr. Gurney; and on the Evidence of his Witnesses—Mr. Gurney's panegyrical Speech on Dr. Ainslie, and the involuntary expressions of the disappointment he experienced in the termination of the case of Joanna Southcote. It will also contain the

TO CORRESPONDENTS—*continued.*

have entitled it, "*Addition to No. 64*," that it may not be mistaken for the Appendix, or Supplement, which they have already published.

The long-promised "*Addition to the Appendix*," containing an account of the Cobaba, and a new, simple, and successful method of treating Stricture of the Urethra, will be published about the first of next month, price 6d.

292, STRAND.

RELIEF WITH EASE AND SECURITY TO THE AFFLICTED WITH RUPTURE.

SALMON, ODY, and CO. after many years successful practice, and being honoured with the recommendation of the most eminent of the Faculty in Town and Country, think it just to the Public and themselves, thus to announce their long established Improvement in the construction of INSTRUMENTS for the RELIEF of HERNIA, and to caution the Public against the impositions of the pretended Rupture-curing Quacks, who have from time to time deceived the Public, recommending such as may not be experienced, to take the opinion of respectable professional men, before being led to be the dupes of such pretenders.

Their Instruments are light, elegant, and admit of superior cleanliness, are adapted for right or left side, increase and decrease of force and size, requiring no under strap or other galling bandage.

N. B. Persons residing in the country, sending the circumference of the body across the hips, may depend upon being accurately fitted.

Sold by Mr. Butler, 84, Sackville-street, Dublin; and one or more Druggists in every principal Town in England.

ABDOMINAL BANDAGES.

BAKER and SON respectfully beg leave to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry, and Members of the Medical Profession, that their Male and Female ABDOMINAL BANDAGES are only to be obtained at their Warehouse, No. 24, Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

They have the pleasure to say, that the invention, which has lately been much improved, according to the kind suggestion of several Medical Gentlemen, is now recommended by the most eminent Members of the Faculty, both in England and France; and those ladies and gentlemen who have adopted them, speak in the highest terms of commendation of the comforts they afford, and the essential advantages they have received from them, in cases of weakness of the stomach, relaxation of the Bowels and of the Back.

DESCRIPTION

OF

MEDICINE CHESTS,

For the Use of Families,

AND

CHEMICAL TEST CHESTS

For Experiments, &c. &c.

BY BERGE AND CO.

THE

TRIAL

OF

MR. RYMER, versus THE EDITOR OF THE GAZETTE OF HEALTH,

FOR

A LIBEL,

ON HIS

CARDIAC TINCTURE:

OR

AN ACCOUNT

OF A

Medical Consultation;

BEING

AN ADDITION TO THE SIXTY-FOURTH NUMBER OF THAT WORK.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETOR, AND AT THE PATENT-MEDICINE DEPOT, IMPERIAL BUILDINGS, STATION-HILL COURT.

CHEMICAL & MEDICAL HALL, 170, PICCADILLY,

Nearly opposite Bond Street.

This Establishment was instituted by Reece and Co. twenty years ago, for the purpose of supplying the Public with Drugs of the best quality; and with the choicest Chemical Preparations, used for compounding Prescriptions with accuracy, on the most reasonable terms.

The following Medicine Chests, Chemical Reagents, and Apparatus for Philosophical experiments, are kept properly fitted up for different Climates;—viz.

The Family Dispensary.—First size, with book of directions, (Medical Guide), 20*l.* 8*s.*; second ditto, 17*l.* 10*s.*; third ditto, 13*l.* 10*s.*; fourth ditto, 10*l.* 6*s.*; fifth ditto, 8*l.* 12*s.*; sixth ditto, 6*l.* 6*s.*

Tropical Dispensary, with book of directions (Tropical Medical Guide)—first size, 16*l.* 10*s.*; second ditto, 13*l.* 10*s.*; third ditto, 10*l.* 5*s.*; fourth ditto, 8*l.* 5*s.*

Traveller's Chest, for the Continent, with book of directions, (Medical Companion in different parts of Europe)—first size, 5*l.* 10*s.*; second ditto, 3*l.* 10*s.*

The Clergyman's, or *Parish Chest* (on a cheap plan)—first size, 9*l.* 9*s.*; second ditto, 8*l.* 8*s.*; third ditto, 5*l.* 5*s.*; with the Medical Guide.

Sea Medicine Chest, for the use of Navy Surgeons, Captains of Merchantmen, &c.—First size, 20*l.* 12*s.*; second ditto, 15*l.* 10*s.*; third ditto, 12*l.* 12*s.*

The Portable Chest of Chemistry, with book of directions, (Chemical Guide)—first size, 25*l.* 10*s.*; second ditto, 15*l.* 10*s.*; third ditto, 10*l.* 10*s.*; fourth ditto, 8*l.* 10*s.*; fifth ditto, 5*l.* 10*s.*

The Mineralogical Chest, containing Reagents, Implements, &c. for the analysis or examination of Mineral Productions, first size, 10*l.* 10*s.*; second ditto, 8*l.* 10*s.*; third ditto, 6*l.* 6*s.*

Chest of Apparatus necessary for conducting Philosophical Experiments, &c. 15*l.* 8*s.*

Prices of Articles lately introduced.

Carbonate of Soda, impregnated with the essential Oil of Lemons—3*s.* 6*d.* per bottle.

Tartaric Acid, for effervescing draughts, being more pleasant and more cooling than soda water, with directions—2*s.* per bottle.

Saturated Tincture of Cubebs, for gleet, fluor albus, chronic inflammation, dropsy, &c.—1*s.* an ounce.

Classical and Medical Bookseller,

Lecture Literature for sale, commencing on the [illegible]

Price List, 8vo, 16 pages

Tracts of Letters, 8vo, 16 pages

The Wine of the Christian world, 8vo, 16 pages

Abridgment of the Gentleman's Book, 8vo, 16 pages

Tactic Lessons, 8vo, 16 pages

Treatise of Logistic, 8vo, 16 pages

Elements of Medical Theology, 8vo, 16 pages

N.B. By the same author the [illegible] a work on Medical Chemistry.

Recently published, price 1s. 6d., the 21st Edition of CATALOGUE OF DRUGS, specified and prepared for Medical and Family use, by the Proprietors of the Patent Medicine for that use, for the cure for which they are employed, and sold at their Establishment, 8 Duke-street, Adelphi. MEDICINE and CHEMICAL [illegible] TRUSTS, with an examination of their contents, adapted to [illegible] and use; viz. The Fluids, Compound Tinctures, and Spa Waters; Other the Patent Chemicals, with Theological Cures, and an account of each Medicine on the authority of the best of Practice subject to the [illegible]

"This is a very convenient Work, and contains [illegible] great deal of useful Medical information."—Literary Gazette, August 1840.

Also, The CHEMICAL GUIDE. Post 7s. 6d.
The TROPICAL MEDICAL GUIDE. Post 8s.
The 3d Edition of the TRANSLATION of the LONDON PHARMACOPŒIA. Price 2s. 6d.

PATENT BRACES.

T. TATTE begs leave to acquaint the Nobility, Gentry, and Members of the Medical Profession, that the IMPROVED BRACES, which have met with the recommendation of the Faculty of the College of Health, and the first Physicians and Surgeons of the Metropolis, for supporting the [illegible] clothes without producing local pressure, and adapting themselves, by means of a flexible and elastic Spring, to the [illegible] and motions of the Body, are sold only at his Warehouse,

Rec'd by the Author

65, *To May 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,
AND
Popular Medical, Dietetic,
PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," &c. &c. &c.

Assisted by several eminent Physicians in America, the West Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

Page

Biography 905
Fever, Remarks on the Treatment of 907
Gallium, Case of, cured 909
Inflammation of a Vertebra of the Neck 910
Intussusception, an obstinate Case of 913
Lipothymia, a Case of 913
Lupus, Similar, a Description of the two 914
Mercurial Travel, successful Treatment of 916
Pulmonary Consumption, a new Method of Treatment in 916
Stricture, Urethral, Caloric, &c. of 920
Tic, the Effects of 924

Table of Contents

LONDON:

PRINTED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; HAMMOND & SHEPHEARD, CLERKENWELL GREEN.

Sold also by all Booksellers in Great Britain.

Aloes Aperient Remedy for .....
Cancer, new Mode of Treatment of .....
Leukæmia, pleasing fact in .....
Opium, new Preparation of .....
Quarter Fever, Prevention of .....
Painful Menstruation, Remedy for .....
The Weekly Cyclopædia, Recommendation of .....
Errors of Judgment—Instances of .....
Dispensaries, Observations on .....
Advice to Surgeons .....
Bugs, Means of destroying .....

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the request of Chemicus, the Editors will pay immediate attention.

R. Y. is advised to take a large teaspoonful of the solution with a Cochlearium meals, every night and morning, till the pain ceases, provided he does not more than once or twice a day on the bowels. R. Y. is advised to apply a blister over the seat of the pain, and to continue the mixture, should cough, should come on.

The Lessons of Elise J.—Dominus Pro Gamo—Cantatrice—Eastern Manners—Dr. Thompson—Physician Ayre, and Surgeon Hare's Medicine—Liver Complaints, and Mrs. Singleton on Perry's Lessons, have been received.

The Editors are sorry to find that their answers to Correspondents, requiring advice, have been omitted for want of room. The Printer will be in time to give them on the wrapper, the Editors will have letters addressed to their initials, at the Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly, and as these are sent to the country, their answers shall be sent, addressed to the Post-Office of the places from whence the letters of consultation are dated.

The communications on the means of preserving meat, and a

Dulce et Utile

E. VINER'S
PORTABLE WHITE SPRUCE,

For the immediate Production of White Spruce Beer, in its highest Perfection.

THIS highly-esteemed invention is particularly recommended to the Nobility, Gentry, and Officers in the Army and Navy, as the only method for procuring this useful and much-admired beverage in a portable form. Its virtues are justly celebrated by every medical writer as an antiscorbutic of the first efficacy, and consequently becomes indispensable in *Voyages by Sea*; as likewise forming an elegant and wholesome Summer Beverage for families.—There are productions at present extant from the coarse extract of Brown Spruce, but this is the only preparation of the White Spruce Fir ever offered to the Public, and which has been obtained by considerable exertion and expense by the sole Inventor and Proprietor, who respectfully solicits the patronage of the Nobility and Gentry, convinced that a single trial will give satisfaction, and refers them to the medical profession to confirm its virtues.

Sold, by appointment of the Proprietor, in packets enclosed in lead, *(which retains its virtues unimpaired for any length of time)*, at 4s. each, containing sufficient for 12 gallons, with proper direction, by T. Griffiths, 250, Oxford Street, near Portman Street, and Dunsford's Chemical and Medicinal Warehouse, 155, Cheapside; or Barklit and Calk, 29, Fleet Street.

Medical and Surgical Depository,

No. 3, Warwick Place, Bedford Row.

MACHIN and GILL, (Actual Manufacturers of Elastic Gum Bougies, Catheters, &c. &c.) respectfully advertise the Faculty, that they have just published (and which may be had gratis) a comprehensive Catalogue of Surgical and Midwifery Instruments, and various Apparatus used in Pharmaceutical Practice, with the price attached to each article, which will be found to average considerably less than is usually charged by other instrument makers. And as M. and G. have engaged the most experienced workmen in the trade, they are enabled unqualifiedly to warrant every article they sell, and trust that their endeavours will continue to merit the countenance and support of the Profession.

N. B. Orders from the Country faithfully and promptly executed.

Medical Agency.

MACHIN and GILL have also, at the suggestion of several friends, adapted an Office for the negotiation of *Medical Partnerships*, where a Register is kept of Applications for the Sale or Exchange of Premises, and for Assistants and Apprentices. Also to register the applications

MEDICAL GASES

Mr. PAYNE,

Practical Chemist, removed from New Road Street to No. [illegible] Salisbury Place, in the New Road, five doors east of Gloucester Place, Portman Square.

Begs leave to state, that INFLAMMATIONS of the Lungs, Quinsey, Bronchocele, Pectoral Pains, Asthma, Catarrh, Coughs, Spasmodic Contractions, St. Vitus's Dance, are successfully treated by the GASES.

ALL NERVOUS COMPLAINTS,

Particularly St. Vitus's Dance, very speedily cured by the Vapour Bath, which is perfectly painless, and can be used in the most delicate state of health, to the highest perfection at his new Genuine Bathing Establishment, No. [illegible] Salisbury Place, containing 3 Parlours and Portico.

Hysterics and Convulsions immediately relieved and successfully cured. The most distressing Paroxysms of these complaints instantly removed by external application of the Pure Gases, even after every other means have failed.

ALL THE MEDICAL GASES

May be obtained from Mr Payne with DIRECTIONS for their Preparation, for their application, accurately prepared for Patients who live at the Distance of more than two hours, agreeable to the Practice of the Faculty in Edinburgh, Montpelier, &c. The numerous Medical Cases which have been published by the Faculty fully evince their great value in Medicine.

Attendance daily, at the Dispensary Department, No. 11, Salisbury Place, in the New Road, where the Gases are prepared, and [illegible]

O 66, *To June* 1st, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,
AND
Popular Medical, Dietetic,
PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON;

ONE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DISPENSATORY AND POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," &c. &c. &c.

Assisted by several Medical Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

of Tic Douloureux, cured by Carbonate of Iron 937
ossilism cured by the Wine of the Colchicum Seeds 938
up, on the Treatment of 939
ers, Dr. Gregory on the Application of, to Infants 940
Phenakism, (continued from the last Number) 942
Iodine, as a Remedy for Wen and Scrofula 954
d Head, Ointment for the Cure of 954
, on the Sulphuret of Potass in Cases of 954
ulceration of the Larynx, Operation for 955
r Cough, a Case of 959
Whites of Eggs, as an Antidote to Corrosive Sublimate 959

[Turn over.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; SIMPKIN & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT;

And sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

Barry and Jones, Printers, Angel Court, London.

"A Friend" of Devonshire, is informed that the dose of the sulphuric wine is from two to three tea-spoonsful. The Editors have not yet seen Jewell's bath. They will read him a description of it, or notice it in their next number.

The effects of the topical application of chromate to allaying irritation and inflammation; pamphlets on the state of the medical profession; books on bone complaints; Hedley's epileptic remedy; Phillips's antibilious mixture; the practice of iron as a topical remedy for carbuncular ulcers, are intended for the next number.

The subject of Education, the Editors have suspended for a few months, in consequence of an influx of interesting medical correspondence.

The Editors have received a letter from R. M. on a new subject, apparently of importance to the faculty in general. It came at a period much too late for insertion in this number; but as he spoke as desirous for its appearance in print, we shall gratify his wishes by inserting it in our next. It has strong claim to attention from the faculty in general. The Westgarthian subscribers to R. M. for republishing his old book, will have a note attached to the new Letter, which will perfectly satisfy them as to past and future matters connected therewith.

A. B. and C. S. of Birmingham; W. L. of Bewdley; R. S. of Southampton; Jeremy Ego; Jane K. of Worcester, will receive answers to their queries agreeably to their directions, in the course of the first week in June.

*** The addition to the 64th number, containing the particulars of the proceedings of Mr. Ryder against the Editors, an account of a very interesting and highly instructive consultation over a dying patient, in which all the eminent surgeons gave their opinions, &c. &c. &c., was published on the 15th of April. As this addition forms a part of the volume, the Editors advise their subscribers to order their booksellers to procure it, before it is out of print.

The addition to the Appendix, or structure, disease, Hedley, &c. &c. &c. will be published about the 15th of June. It will not form a part of the regular monthly numbers.

Medical and Surgical Depository,

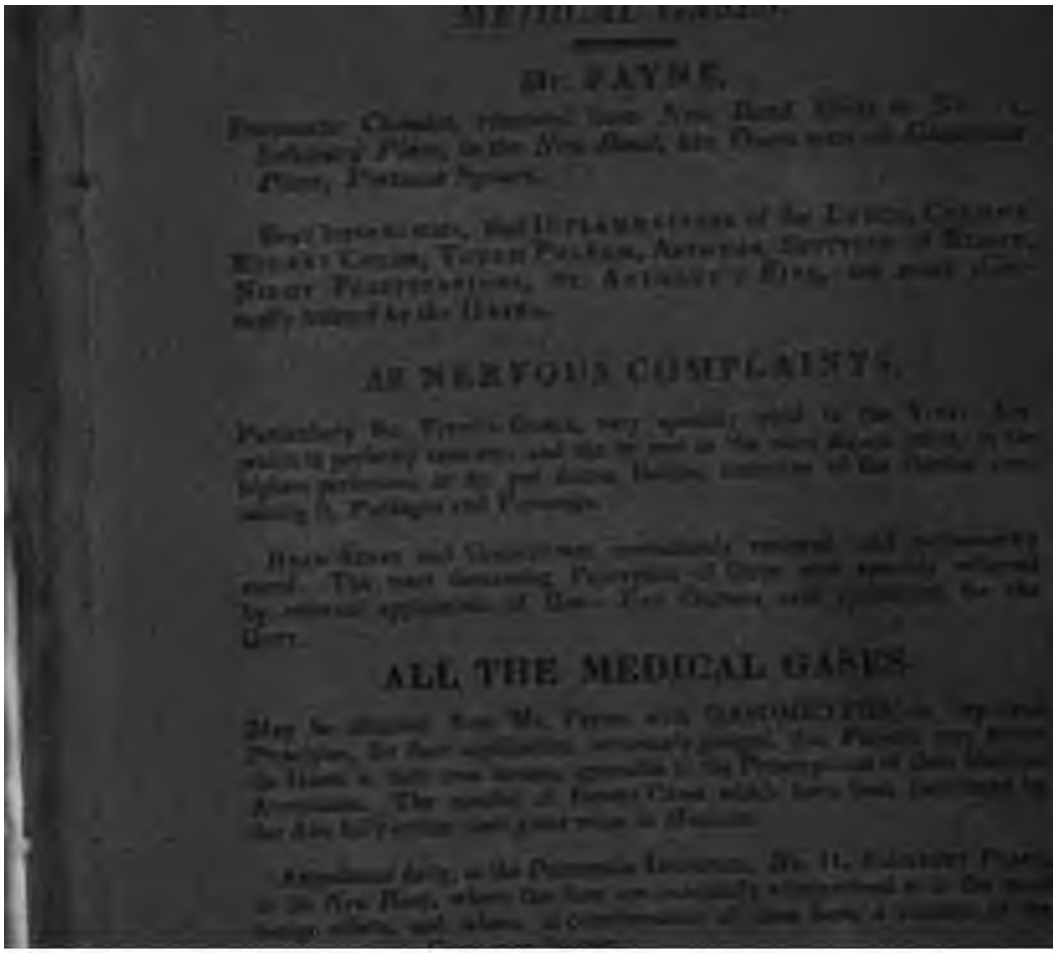
No. 3, Warwick Place, Bedford Row.

MACHIN and GILL (Actual Manufacturers of Elastic Gum Bougies, Catheters, &c. &c.) respectfully advertise the Faculty, that they have just published (and which may be had gratis) a comprehensive Catalogue of Surgical and Midwifery Instruments, and various Apparatus used in Pharmaceutical Practice, with the prices attached to each article, which will be found to average considerably less than is usually charged by other instrument makers. And as M. and G. have engaged the most experienced workmen in the trade, they are enabled unequivocally to warrant every article they sell; and trust that their endeavours will continue to merit the countenance and support of the Profession.

N. B. Orders from the Country faithfully and promptly executed.

Medical Agency.

Messrs. and Gill have also, at the suggestion of several friends, adopted an Office for the negotiation of *Medical Partnerships*, where a Register is kept of Applications for the Sale or Exchange of Practices; and for Assistants and Apprentices. Also to register the applications



N° 67, *To July 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY

Gazette of Health,

Popular Medical, Dietetic,

PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL

JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

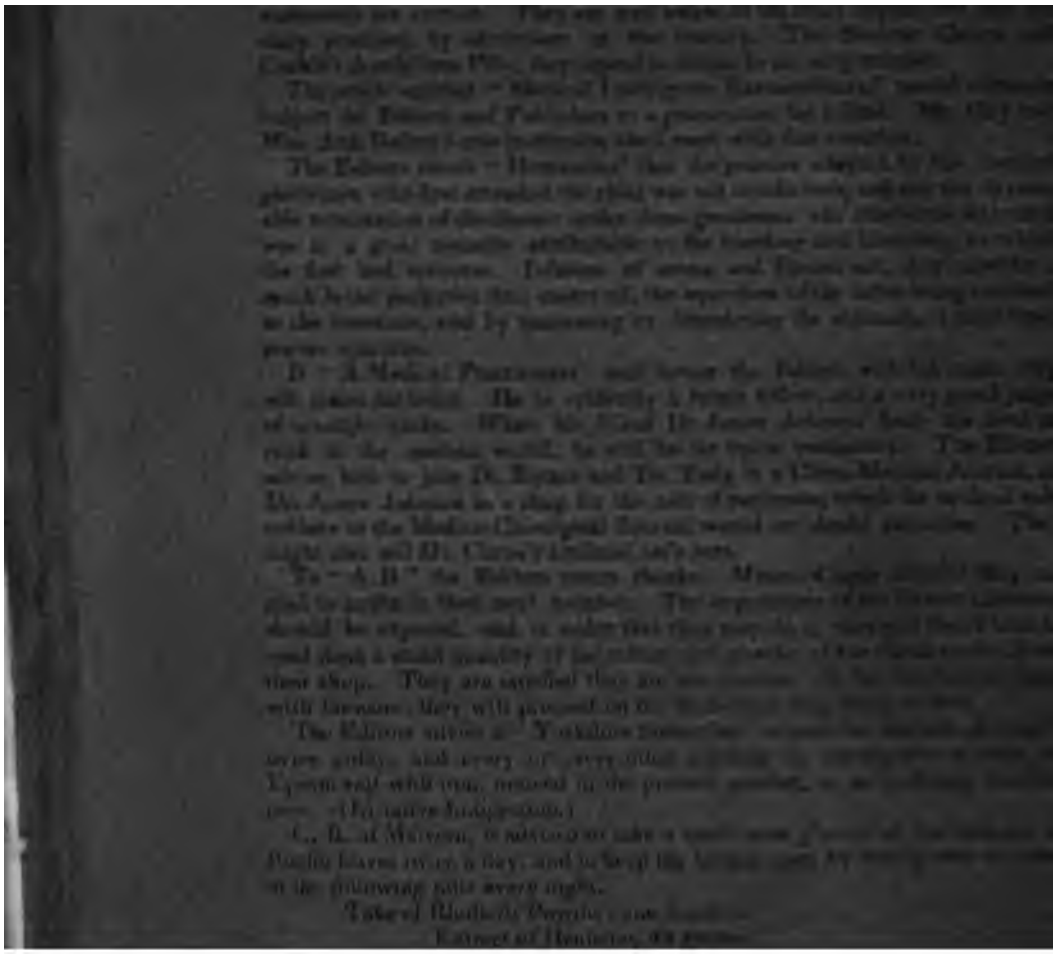
FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," "CHEMICAL HISTORY," CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL SCHOOLS OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

Aided by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

The Royal College of Physicians of London 313
Remarks on Inflammation, by Dr. Gregory 319
Diseases of Inflammation 341
and the Effects of Labour on Society 371
Dr. Ayre's Book on Bilious Complaints 376
Dr. Hare's Do. ..... Do. 377
Dr. Philip's Do. ..... Do. 380
On the Time for collecting the Celebrated Roots 387
Dr. Bowie's Treatise on Pulmonary Consumption 389
——— of Hooping-Cough 397
——— of Dysentery, &c. 399
The Dentarium, by Surgeon Vidal 401
Dr. Philip's Experiments on Rabbits 406
Effects of Vaccination, by Dr. Pearson 409
On the Delivery of Twins 410
On the Prodigality of Birds 414
Consumption, Short by the Pythagorean 417

LONDON:



TO CORRESPONDENTS—*continued.*

The case of Miss P—y, is evidently *Scrofula*. The Editors cannot but advise an administration of the Tincture of Iodine (from twenty to thirty drops) in a wine-glass-full of the Decoction of the dried Marshmallow root twice a day.

The queries of A. N. D—, C. D., "Wormlesk," I. I—s, A. Y., and You, the Editors will answer by post.

The Editors thank S. H. for his information. They have not seen Dr. James Johnson's brilliant work. His inventions are always very brilliant, and the ease for scribbling has already proved serviceable to Retailers of Butter and Bacon. When a man has recourse to scurrility in lieu of argument, it must appear clear to his readers, that, to use an elegant phrase, for which the learned Doctor of Words is very justly celebrated, he *swears*. It was far from the wish of the Editors to hurt his feelings—the only object they had in view, in pointing out the absurdities of his flights of fancy, was to induce him to read instead of write.

The communications which have been received for insertion in the Gazette of Health will appear, sooner or later, according to their merits.

☞ Communications addressed to the Editors, who *Possibly*, will be thankfully received.

IN SPITE OF

PRESENT PREPARATIONS,

To be published on or before Monday Noon, July 9th,

SPLENDIDA,

OR HIGH ARGUMENTS FOR ROYAL FIAT TO POSTPONE

THE INTENDED CORONATION

TO

A more suitable Season, than during the tempestuous Dog-Star Heat; when Storms, *Thunders, Lightnings*, so frequent, so annoying, so alarming, and sometimes so fatal, as the Month of July.

BY A CAMBRO-BRITON.

A WELL-WISHER TO KING AND COUNTRY.

"When Thunders roar, and Lightnings flash,
And pelting Hail the Sky-lights dash."

Would the stages of the persons of the Epicurean Scene be what they should be? Would not Terror convey his Horrors to the Banquet?

is will be One Shilling. No Trade allowance will be on less than
copies.

The Publishers' names will be announced in the public News-paper

---

The Author of Splendida sent his advertisement to me with a letter
taining some very bold, ingenious, and striking sentiments, the
of a man whose mind has been cultivated with useful science.
came at a period too late for insertion; we shall with pleasure
them, with his other thoughts, in print, which at present we know
but from the specimen of argument sent, we have no doubt that
whole will be sought for with eagerness by the discerning public;
we sincerely wish that the Cambro-Britons may have the high
of reflecting, that his pen was employed useful to mankind, in
high stations to relinquish a design evidently and well judged.

To be DRAWN the 1st of JULY, 1782.

Tickets £3. 3s. each,

TOMKINS'S PICTURE LOTTERY,

Consisting of Oil and Water-Colour Paintings; Sets of the
Gallery of Pictures; and Sets of the Marquis of Stafford's Gallery,
and in Colours; number of which have been drawn in the
complete, except the original Subscribers; and also, one of
lustrative of a magnificent Edition of Thomson's Seasons, and
Miscellaneous Subjects, selected from the many Works
are very expensively Ordered.

*As the Copper-Plates of the above Works are to be
Act of Parliament, Sets of them will become very valuable*

N° 68, *To August 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,
AN
Popular Medical, Dietetic,
PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," "CHEMICAL GUIDE," CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

Aided by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

the Royal College of Physicians of London 1001
ase of Tape-Worm destroyed by Spirit of Turpentine, by Dr Knox 1005
ase of Napoleon Buonaparte 1011
ount of Appearances on his Dissection 1013
, O'Meara's Letter 1014
marks on his Opinion as to the Disease which occasioned the Death of Napoleon 1017
, Mr. Parnell's Essay on the Disorders and Treatment of the Teeth 1030
, Rowlandson's Cure for Cancerous Ulcerations 1033
ng of Quinine Recently successfully created by Galvanism, by Mr. Le Baronie .. 1023
ohn Epsom Salt 1025
, Philip's Experiments on the Influence of the Eighth Pair of Nerves 1031
ods of procuring an Artificial Climate 1035
the Sedative Power 1037
, Dr. James Johnson 1038
, the Preservation of Meat by the Pyroligneous Acid 1039
, the Preservation of Ice 1039
tes on the Brentford Dispensary 1039
dson's Botanical Tooth Powder 1041
nadian Ointment, a Specific for Piles 1042

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; BUDDLE & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT;

And sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

The Editors refer A. C——r——, of Dublin; J. J. of Liverpool; W. S. of Newborough; and W. L. of the Borough, to one of Advices to the Invalid, &c.," which will be published in a few days.

Peter, of Dublin, is advised to give the following solution a trial.

Take of Pure Prussic Acid [illegible] drops;
Distilled Water, two ounces.

If it should not inflame the skin, he may increase the power of the [illegible] and if it should excite inflammation he should increase the quantity of water. To the next Number the Editors intend to give an original article on the growth of the hair, and the best means of eradicating it, and also of preventing its growth, &c.

M. B. has, no doubt, ruined his constitution by following the advice of Quacks; as he lives in London, they advise him to send himself of the benefit of giving advice gratuitously, viz. from 12 to 2 o'clock, every Wednesday and Friday, at 19s. Personally, his narrative of his sufferings are more satisfactory to them, to enable them to form an opinion of the cause of the affection of the head, &c.

C. H. B——, Miss F——, S. A. T. and C. W. are under a mistake in the information they collect about the Black Lotion.

To W. B——, Dr. L. Jones, Mr. Smith, and several other persons [illegible] the Editors return their sincere thanks.—They have not time to answer them individually.

Mr. Gore's Supplement to the Pa[illegible]

DISTORTIVE MUSCULAR CONTRACTION OF THE LIMBS, AND PARALYSIS.

MR. OLIVER, late Surgeon to the Royal York Hospital for the Treatment of the above Complaints in the Army, begs to inform his Friends, and the Public, that he has removed to No. 10, Carlisle Street, Soho Square, where Affections of the above Nature are removed by the same Mode which he has practised, with such distinguished Success, in the different Military Hospitals, and which has been sanctioned with the Approval of Government, and the first professional Characters in Europe.

Medical and Surgical Depository,

No. 3,

WARWICK PLACE, BEDFORD ROW.

MACHIN and GILL (Actual Manufacturers of Elastic Gum Catheters, Bougies, &c. &c.) respectfully advertise the Faculty, that they have just published (and which may be had gratis) a new Catalogue of Surgical and Midwifery Instruments, with the price to each article, which average considerably less than the usual charges of other makers; and as M. and G. have engaged the most experienced workmen in the trade, they unequivocally warrant every article sold by them, and trust their endeavours will continue to meet the support of the Profession.

N. B. Orders from the Country faithfully and promptly executed.

Medical Agency.

MACHIN and GILL have also adapted an Office for the following negotiations, viz. *Medical Partnerships*, the Sale of Practices, the Purchase of ditto, and for providing *Assistants* and *Apprentices*. Terms as follow: For negotiating a Partnership, 5 guineas. The Sale or Purchase of a Practice, 5 guineas. For procuring an Apprentice, 5 guineas. In each of which cases 2 guineas are to be paid down (which M. and G. undertake to expend in special Advertisements, if necessary) and the remainder on the object being effected. *Gentlemen are provided with Assistants gratis.* An Assistant requiring a situation to pay 1s. on his name being registered; in consideration of which, he will have the earliest intimation of every Vacancy that offers, and all possible assistance whatever to attain his object. And if provided through the medium of M. and G. he is then to pay the further sum of 1*l*.

All Letters relating to the Agency (unless accompanied by an order for goods) are requested to be post-paid.

Rollason; Dimsdale, 155, Cheapside; Barton, Royal Exchange; Harris, Cornhill, 16, Tichborne-street, Haymarket; Sinclair, 18, Fenchurch-street; Sutton, 86, Whitechapel; Warburton, jun. and Co., near the West India Docks, Limehouse; and by most of the respectable Chemists in London, in packets (stamed) 1s. 6d., with full directions, at 2s. per packet. Also, Vitriolated Concentrated Essence of White Spruce, for making White Spruce Beer, in bottles sufficient for Eighteen Gallons, with full directions, at 7s. per bottle. Sold by the Inventor, 220, Oxford-street, near Portman-street.

☞ This article the Editors had to warn the character the Proprietors had given it. It is very pleasant to the palate, and efficacious in purifying the blood and cooling the body. It is greatly approved and discreetly used by some persons as a beverage during warm weather.

TO PERSONS AFFLICTED WITH DISTORTION, RUPTURES, &c.

MR. ORACHE, 114, Regent-street, near Blenheim-street, and at 3, Exeter-street, Golden-square, has the honour of informing the Public that his Manufactured Trusses, and various other Instruments for the cure of Cases of all kinds, Stand with Superior or Distinguished

Mr. O. having conducted the business of Mr. T. Bartlett, 151, Piccadilly, for twelve years, possesses great experience in the department, and as his Instruments are of such a quality and price as to merit the further attention of the Public. He now offers for inspection a highly improved Truss, which, when examined, will afford great relief, and will be found much more perfect and less cumbersome than any Truss hitherto made.—Medical Practitioners may be supplied on the most liberal terms.

TO YOUNG MEN OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

A Surgeon and Apothecary in one of the Home Counties, on the death of a neighbouring Practitioner has been requested to fill the Establishment, by filling a few miles distant from his residence, to take immediate charge of and to the practice of both places. He is one of a partnership, [illegible]

N°. 69, *To Sept. 1st*, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY

Gazette of Health,

—

Popular Medical, Dietetic,

PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL

JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON;

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," "CHEMICAL GUIDE," CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

Aided by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

... Physician's Guide, by Dr. Hicks 1033
... of Tic Douloureux cured by Carbonate of Iron 1039
... by Peruvian Bark 1043
... the different Species of Head-Ache, by Sir... on Tumor 1051
... of her late Majesty 1056
... of the late Napoleon Buonaparte 1057
... Case of Wen cured by Lafaye 1058
... of Sudden Death 1059
... of Aneurism of the Carotid Artery 1062
... ady for Tape Worm 1065
... upon Dr. ...'s Treatise on Galvanism 1066
... scriptions of an Instrument for cauterizing Canals 1067
... the Treatment of a purulent Discharge from the Ears, by Benjamin Bell 1069
... Case of Hydrophobia 1071
... Prevost's Remedy for Ha... 1081
... final Cure of Rheumatism, by Dr. Thompson 1083

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; HARVEY & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT.

And sold by all Booksellers in Great Britain and Ireland.

BOOKS just published by Sherwood, Neely, and Jones, Paternoster-Row.

THE FIRST ADDITION TO THE APPENDIX

OF

THE GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

CONTAINING

Instructions for the Cure of different Stricture.—On Affection of the Seminal Ducts, generally mistaken for Stricture.—Morbid Irritability of the Bladder.—Disease of the Prostate Gland.—Gleet.—Impotency.—Nocturnal Emissions, &c. &c.—With an Account and Directions for the Use of the Cooling Leaves (a new and effectual Remedy for Irritative Diseases of the Bladder, Stricture, &c.) and of the Cubebs for Gonorrhœa, Gleet, &c. Price 2s.

ADDITION TO N°. 64.

OF THE

MONTHLY GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

To APRIL 15, 1821.

Price One Shilling.

CONTAINING

The Trial of Mr. Rymer versus the Editors, for a Libel on his Corpse Tourner.—Remarks on Quackery.—Mr. Gurney's Address to the Special Jury in Favour of the Plaintiff.—Examination of Surgeon Steuart, Mr. Pooler, &c.—Mr. Scarlett's Address in Favour of the Defendants.—The Lord Chief Justice's Remarks.—Observations on Mr. Gurney's Address.—Medical Consultation of the leading Physicians, Surgeons, Theory Mongers, and Quacks, of England, over a dying Patient.

An ESSAY on the MEDICAL APPLICATION of ELECTRICITY and GALVANISM, with a concise descriptive Account of the Diseases, in the Cure of which they are applicable. By JAMES PRICE, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, late in his Majesty's Service. Price 6s. 6d. in Boards.

FAMILIAR LETTERS, addressed to the Countess of ———, on the CAUSES, PREVENTION, and CURE of INDIGESTION, BILIOUS and NERVOUS COMPLAINTS; and their CONSEQUENCES on the GENERAL HEALTH. By a late PHYSICIAN of Eminence in London. Price 2s. 6d.

Books published by Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown.

Price 9s. in Boards,

THE TROPICAL MEDICAL GUIDE.

CONTAINING

Simple Instructions for the Prevention and Cure of the Diseases of Tropical Climates, and such as occur on the Voyage; with a copious Dispensatory, as Companion to a Medicine Chest, adapted to Tropical Practice; to which are added, a System of Regulations for the Health of British Subjects, on their Return to Europe from Hot Climates; and an Appendix, containing Remarks on the Climate and Diseases of different Parts of Europe, particularly Holland, Russia, Germany, France, &c.; with Rules for the Preservation of the Health of Travellers to these Parts, including a Dispensatory, or Companion to the Continental Medicine Chest, &c. &c.

By RICHARD REECE, M. D.

Price 7s. 6d. in Boards,

THE CHEMICAL GUIDE;

OR

EPITOME OF MODERN EXPERIMENTAL CHEMISTRY;

Comprising the General Laws of Chemical Action; the Methods of preparing Chemical Reagents, and using them in the Analyses of Natural and Artificial Products; an Account of the Nature and Formation of Elastic Fluids, with a great Variety of amusing and instructing Experiments; to which are added, Means of detecting the Adulterations of Medicinal and other substances; Directions for making Domestic Chemical Articles of real Utility; Tables of Affinity; a View of Animal Chemistry, as explaining the Laws and Functions of the animated Structure; and the Phenomena of Diseases, on the Principles of this Science; and a Glossary, explanatory of Technical Terms, &c. &c. &c.

By *REECE* and Co.

Proprietors of the Chemical and Medical Hall, Piccadilly.

The 9th Edition, enlarged and corrected, Price 9s. 6d.

CATALOGUE OF DRUGS;

specifying their Properties, Doses to Children and Adults, the proper Vehicles for their Use, the Diseases for the Cure of which they are employed, and Retail Prices. To which is added, a Description of the dif-

TO THE FACULTY.

A GENTLEMAN in the Country, having a Son, who has had a liberal education, served a regular apprenticeship, and has been out as Assistant (from whence he can be well recommended), wishes for a situation, where he would be found generally useful, independent of Midwifery, having one year gone through an hospital attendance.—The salary not so much the object.

Letters addressed (post paid) to Messrs. Reece and Co. Medical Hall, Piccadilly, will be duly attended to.

TO PARENTS, &c.

WANTED an Apprentice to a Chemist and Druggist, in a large Market Town, about 60 miles from London, a Youth of good education and morals—will be treated as one of the Family. A moderate premium will be expected.

For particulars, apply at Reece and Co.'s, Medical Hall, 170, Piccadilly.

292, STRAND.

RELIEF WITH EASE AND SECURITY TO THE AFFLICTED WITH HERNIA.

SALMON, ODY, and Co. after many years successful practice, and being honoured with the recommendation of the most eminent of the Faculty in Town and Country, think it just to the Public and themselves thus to announce their long-established Improvement in the construction of INSTRUMENTS for the RELIEF of HERNIA, and to caution the Public against the Impositions of the pretended Rupture-curing Quacks, who have from time to time deceived the Public, recommending such as may not be experienced to take the opinion of respectable professional men, before being led to be the dupes of such pretenders.

Their Instruments are light, elegant, and admit of superior elasticity, are adapted for right or left side, increase and decrease of force and size, requiring no under strap, or other galling bandage.

N. B. Persons residing in the country, sending the circumference of the body across the hips, may depend upon being accurately fitted.

Sold at the Medical Hall, 24, Sackville Street, Dublin; and on or more Druggists in every principal Town in England.

N° 70, *To Oct.* 1st, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,

TO

Popular Medical, Dietetic,
PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," "CHEMICAL GUIDE," CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

and by several eminent Physicians in America, the West Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
the Progress of Medical Science, &c.	1065
ses of Nervous Flagellation, in a Case of partial Palsy	1069
ssful Treatment of a Case of Intestinal Obstruction, by Surgeon Williams	1071
rvations on Hypochondriasism, by Mr. Henry Perry	1073
of Erysipelas cured by strong Mercurial Ointment, by Dr. Little	1074
the Growth, Preservation, &c. of the Hair	1074
Remedy for Baldness	1076
Cadby's Depilatory	1076
the Effects of finely-pulverized Charcoal, in promoting or restoring Inflammation and Pain	1076
Remedy for Gout	1077
Cases in Abscess of the Female Breast, by Mr. Bland of Edinburgh	1077
the Oil of the Croton Tiglium as a Cathartic	1079

[See over.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY BOTTOMLEY & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; SIMPKIN & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT;

And sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

BOOKS just published by Sherwood, Neely, and Jones, Paternoster-Row.

THE FIRST ADDITION TO THE APPENDIX

OF

THE GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

CONTAINING

Instructions for the Cure of different Strictures.—On Affection of the Second Ducts, generally mistaken for Stricture.—Morbid Irritability of the Bladder.—Disease of the Prostate Gland.—Gleet.—Impotency.—Nocturnal Emissions, &c. &c.—With an Account and Directions for the Use of the Buchu Leaves (a new and effectual Remedy for Irritative Diseases of the Bladder, Stricture, &c.) and of the Extracts for Gonorrhœa, Gleet, &c. Price 2*s.*

ADDITION TO N°. 64,

OF THE

MONTHLY GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

To APRIL 15, 1824.

Price One Shilling.

CONTAINING

The Trial of Mr. Ayscough versus the Editors, for a Libel on his Cardiac Tincture.—Remarks on Quackery.—Mr. Gurney's Address to the Special Jury in Favour of the Plaintiff.—Examination of Surgeon Steele, Mr. Pooley, &c.—Mr. Scarlett's Address in Favour of the Defendants.—The Lord Chief Justice's Remarks.—Observations on Mr. Gurney's Address.—Medical Consultation of the leading Physicians, Surgeons, Theory Mongers, and Quacks, of England, over a dying Patient.

An ESSAY on the MEDICAL APPLICATION of ELECTRICITY and GALVANISM, with a concise descriptive Account of the Diseases, in the Cure of which they are applicable. By JAMES PRICE, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, late in his Majesty's Service. Price 6*s.* 6*d.* in Boards.

FAMILIAR LETTERS, addressed to the Patients of ———, on the CAUSES, PREVENTION, and CURE of INDIGESTION, BILIOUS and NERVOUS COMPLAINTS; and their CONSEQUENCES on the GENERAL HEALTH. By a late PHYSICIAN of Eminence in London. Price 2*s.* 6*d.*

Books published by Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown.

Price 7s. 6d. in Boards,

THE CHEMICAL GUIDE;

OR,

EPITOME OF MODERN EXPERIMENTAL CHEMISTRY:

Comprising the General Laws of Chemical Action; the Methods of preparing Chemical Reagents, and using them in the Analysis of Natural and Artificial Products; an Account of the Nature and Formation of Elastic Fluids, with a great Variety of amusing and instructive Experiments; to which are added, Means of detecting the Adulteration of Medicinal and other Substances; Directions for making Domestic Chemical Articles of real Utility; Tables of Affinity; a View of Animal Chemistry, as explaining the Laws and Functions of the animated Structure; and the Phenomena of Diseases, on the Principles of this Science; and a Glossary, explanatory of Technical Terms, &c. &c. &c.

By REECE and Co.

Proprietors of the Chemical and Medical Hall, Piccadilly.

The 8th Edition, enlarged and corrected. Price 2s. 6d.

CATALOGUE OF DRUGS;

Specifying their Properties, Doses to Children and Adults, the proper Vehicles for their Use, the Diseases for the Cure of which they are employed, and Retail Prices: To which is added, a Description of the different Medicine and Chemical Test Chests, with an Enumeration of their Contents, as adapted to different Climates, and their Uses; viz. the Family, Continental, Tropical, Military, and Sea Medicine Chests; the portable Chests of Chemistry and Mineralogical Chests; and an Account of such Medicines as are necessary to be kept by Families residing in the Country.

By REECE and Co.

Of the Chemical and Medical Hall, Piccadilly.

"This is a very convenient work, and contains, in a short compass, a great deal of useful practical information."—*Critical Review.*

DISTORTIONS, MUSCULAR CONTRACTION OF THE LIMBS, AND PARALYSIS.

Mr. OLIVER, late Surgeon to the Royal York Hospital for the Treatment of the above Complaints in the Army, begs to inform his Friends, and the Public, that he has removed to No. 10, Carlisle Street, Soho Square, where Affections of the above Nature are removed by the same Mode which he has practised, with such distinguished success, in the different Military Hospitals, and which has been sanctioned with the Approval of Government, and the first professional Characters in Europe.

This Day is published,

Price 2s. Boards,

The Parent's Medical and Surgical Assistant,

Intended for the Use of the Heads of Families, Parochial Churchwardens, and others, affording familiar and popular Directions for the Management of the Sudden Illnesses and various Accidents that require a prompt and judicious Treatment, and will not admit the delay necessary for procuring regular Advice.

By THOMAS AYRE BROMHEAD, M. B.
Christ's College, Cambridge.

London: printed and sold by W. Phillips, George Yard, Lombard Street.

292, STRAND.

RELIEF WITH EASE AND SECURITY TO THE AFFLICTED WITH HERNIA.

SALMON, ODY, and Co. after many years successful practice, and being honoured with the recommendation of the most eminent of the Faculty in Town and Country, think it just to the Public and themselves thus to announce their long established Improvement in the construction of INSTRUMENTS for the RELIEF of HERNIA, and to caution the Public against the Impositions of the pretended Rupture-curing Quacks, who have from time to time deceived the Public, recommending such as may not be experienced to take the opinion of respectable professional men, before being led in to the dupes of such pretenders.

Their Instruments are light, elegant, and adroit of superior pleasantness, are adapted for right or left side, increase and decrease of force and size, requiring no under strap, or other galling bandage.

N. B. Persons residing in the country, sending the circumference of the body across the hips, may depend upon being accurately fitted.

Sold at the Medical Hall, 54, Sackville Street, Dublin; and are to meet Druggists in every principal Town in England.

[O. 71, *To Nov.* 1st, 1821.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,
Popular Medical, Dietetic,
HILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

BER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," "CHEMICAL GUIDE," CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

ted by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
the Causes which impede the Progress of Medicine	1097
Dr. Paris's Pharmacologia	1098
the London Pharmacopœia	1099
s of Scrofula, cured by Iodine	1108
raordinary Case of difficult Parturition	1109
different Species of Head Ache	1110
l Effects of wild Theories	1111
s of Scirrhous Enlargement of the Cervix Uteri	1112
Mode of treating Watery Head, by Sir Gilbert Blane	1113
s of Gout and Rheumatism cured by the Wine of the Colchicum Seeds, by r. Unwin	1115
the Prussic Acid, by Dr. M'Leod	1117
English Opium and Narcotine	1119
narks on Vegetable Diet	1120
Quackery	1122
ntation of a Society of practical Medicine, in London	1125
——— Medico-chirurgical Society	1126
the Nostrum termed prepared Essence of Soups	1127
cipt for making cold Cream	1128

LONDON:

BLISHED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW; SIMPKIN & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT:

And sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

J. Barnard, Bridge Street, London.

To Correspondents—continued.

...are not relieved every day, a few grains of rhubarb powder may be administered occasionally. She should live chiefly on animal food.

For the treatment of the young man's case, the Editors refer him to the "First Addition to the Appendix."—To the patient aged 30, they recommend the following:

Take of Lime-water, eight ounces,
Foreign Extract of Rhatany, three drachms,
Compound Tinct. of Cardamoms, six do.

Mix.—Three table spoonfuls to be taken three times a day. He may also take four grains of the blue pill every night, for a week, with five grains of rhubarb, in case of costiveness. He should have noticed the state of the bowels and the constitutions of his patients, in regard to plethora.

"C. K." (or "A. K.") and a Constant Reader, are advised to give the liniment of oil, and sulphuric acid, noticed in a late Number, a trial. To keep down gouty irritation, they know of no medicine more efficacious than the alcaline tincture of the meadow saffron seeds. As a preventive, the composition of sulphur, magnesia, &c. given in a former Number, has succeeded better than any other remedy.

A. B. should have noticed his address in his second letter, as the Editors destroy all letters of consultation as soon as they have answered them.

A. S.—W. B.—and Humanitas, will hear from the Editors in the course of a day or two.

DISTORTIONS, MUSCULAR CONTRACTION OF THE LIMBS, PARALYSIS, AND RUPTURE.

Mr. OLIVER, late Surgeon to the Royal York Hospital for the Treatment of the above Complaints in the Army, begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has removed to No. 10, Carlisle Street, Soho Square, where Affections of the above Nature are removed by the same Mode which he has practised, with such distinguished success, in the different Military Hospitals, and which has been sanctioned with the Approval of Government, and the first professional Characters in Europe.

"There is probably no class of complaints affecting the human frame more distressing to Patients and their friends, than those which deprive them of the pleasure of assisting themselves, or using that degree of exercise so necessary to the general health of the system; and it has been a subject of regret to the enlightened part of the profession, that Distortions, Muscular Contractions of the Limbs, Paralysis, and Rupture, should have been left so long to mere mechanics. We are happy to find, from several inquiries that we have instituted, that Mr. Oliver, late Surgeon to the Royal York Hospital, for the treatment of these Complaints in the Army, is pursuing a course of practice most successful and beneficial to numbers who have consulted him.—Mr. Oliver was exclusively employed by Government in the treatment of these complaints in the army, and proved his science and judgment so satisfactorily as to be favoured with distinguished marks of approbation; and we sincerely hope he will meet that degree of encouragement from the faculty and public which he merits, and that this branch of practice will be rescued from the hands of mere mechanical men, who are persons totally unacquainted with anatomy."—MED. REV.

Mr. PAYNE,
PNEUMATIC CHEMIST,

Most respectfully begs leave to state that he has removed from No. 136, New Bond Street, to No. 11, Salisbury Place, New Road, five doors west of Gloucester Place, Portman Square; where he continues the manufactory

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY

Gazette of Health,

OR

Popular Medical, Dietetic, PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL JOURNAL.

EDITED BY

DR. RICHARD REECE,

OF LONDON,

FORMERLY OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE," "MEDICAL NOTES," "CHEMICAL NOTES," CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

Aided by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of Europe.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Biographical Sketch of the late Dr. Rigby 1129
Of the Causes which impede the Progress of Medicine 1134
Remarkable Case of Abstinence of Food, by an Hypochondriac 1137
Treatment of a Patient who had swallowed Arsenic 1139
Of the Croton Oil 1141
On Dr. Paris's Pharmacologia 1141
On Mr. Wright's Address to Persons afflicted with Deafness 1144
New Mode of Treating Hydrophobia, by Dr. Muller 1145
A Case of Sanguineous Tumour 1145
Sulphureous Fumigation 1147
Effects of the Colchicum Seed Wine in Gout, by Surgeon Bennett 1148
Of Cholera Morbus 1149
Of the Effects of Gestation in Edematous Swellings 1153
Case of Pectoral Angina, with Remarks 1154
Of the Contagious Nature of Yellow Fever 1155
Receipt for Making Tincture of Iodine 1161
Dills Gout Liniment 1162
Successful Treatment of Stammering 1163
A Fatal Case of Lock-jaw 1167
Remarks on a Case of Sanguineous Tumour 1168
Successful Treatment of Asthma 1169
Dilts of Gamble 1171
Report of Diseases 1172
Experiments with Oxygen 1176
Of the Medical Institutions, by Drs. Emmanuel, Jordan, and Others 1183
Mr. Cockle's Antibilious Pills 1192

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY SHERWOOD & CO. PATERNOSTER ROW;
SIMPKIN & MARSHALL, STATIONERS' COURT.

And Sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

TO CORRESPONDENTS—*continued.*

The assertion of Veras is false. If he will favour the Editors
th the name of the fellow who dared to assert that he could get a
favorable report of a medicine, or book, in the Gazette of Health,
a bribe, they will prosecute him for a libel. If an author or
opietor of a nostrum should make an offer of the kind, the
itors would assuredly lose no time in exposing him.

"R. M." is advised to consult the *addition* to the Appendix to
Gazette of Health, published a few weeks ago; if it should not
ord him the information he requires, the Editors will be happy to
ar from him again.

The Editors assure a "Medical Practitioner" that they had no
ention of frightening him, when they requested him to favour
m with his name. As he reflected all claim to the character of a
ntleman, they beg to decline reading, or even paying postage, of
ignorant productions. If he be not the Charlatan of *three*
tribes, his letters prove the truth of the old adage, "Birds of a
ther flock together."

"S. W." of Liverpool, "M. A. C." and "Z. R." of York,
Mrs. R." of Bath, "William L." of Exeter, and "S. P." of
mouth, may expect to receive replies in their letters about the
of December.

"Unhappy," and "S. T." are referred to the Appendix.

☞ The Editors beg to inform their Subscribers, that the addition
the Sixty-fourth Number being published in the Middle of the
nth, has not been forwarded with the subsequent regular Num-
; and the present Volume being incomplete without it, they will
e the goodness to order their booksellers to procure it. It was
blished on the 15th of April last.

*** The tincture of iodine, for scrofula, swelling, and
ard of colchicum seeds, for gout, rheumatism, asthma, and pul-
nary consumption; the saturated tincture and leaves of iodine,
ture lozenges for coughs, and other new articles, of approved
acy, may be obtained of *Messrs. Ward and Pring*, at the New
dical Hall, Dublin; of Mr. Saunders, Chemist, Jersey; and at the
dical Hall, 170, Piccadilly, London.

This Day is Published, Price 4s. in Boards,

THE PARENTS'

Medical and Surgical Assistant:

ended for the Use of the Heads of Families, Parochial Clergymen, and
others, affording familiar and popular Directions for the Management of
ldren, Sudden Illness, and various Accidents that require a prompt and
judicious Treatment; and will not admit of the delay necessary for procuring
regular Advice.

By THOMAS EYRE BROMHEAD, M.D.

Christ's College, Cambridge

Published by W. Phillips, George Yard, Lombard Street.